

1999

11 IDLANDER

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MIDLANDER 99

Volume 74

Mascot Lightning keeps spirits high among students at MTSU.



These two sure aren't afraid of public speaking!

Students at MTSU love to drink--non-alcoholic, that is.



All photos courtesy of Darren Thornbury.

Students and Greeks alike show their spirit for the school they love.



All that money is just so tempting!

Brent Campbell takes dealing seriously.



These girls are singing their hearts out, but to whom?

MTSU students just can't get enough of that Blue Raider spirit!



These crazy guys are getting jiggy with it.

There's nothing like the great service at MTSU.



These royal beauties give it all they've got.

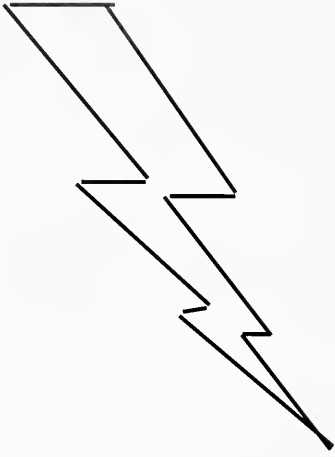
Lovely ladies of MTSU clap until their hearts are content.



Gambling isn't just a man's game.



This wonderful serenade melts all the women's hearts.



STUDENT





LIFE

1

Dwan Bell, Ashely Allen, Julie Hendrick, Chavela Stewart and Carmen Jones take a ride fit only for royalty in the homecoming parade.



9



Leslia Miller, '98 Miss Black and Gold, waves to her fans.

9

8



Look at the scoreboard, what do you see? Another Raiders victory!

Lightning

"He-Man Lightning" defends the castle of MTSU on this creative float.



Lightning appears on yet another homecoming float.



Strikes



Blue Raider fans show their true colors during the parade.

Homecoming

This crowd is going wild!



A scene from the crowd's view.



AbraCaDabra!



1

It's easy to see that Carmen Jones is thrilled to receive the homecoming queen crown.



And the band plays on!



9

9



Emily Zeringue has the beauty queen wave down! Miss MTSU rides in style for the parade.

8

Harvey the totem pole comes home forever

Last Blue Raider victory over Golden Eagles means MTSU keeps symbol of OVC rivalry

By Michael Edwards

The battle for Harvey the totem pole continued on a rainy Saturday afternoon at the Tennessee Tech homecoming in Cookeville. The Blue Raiders battled hard, bringing home a 19-16 win and the symbol of the classic rivalry for the last time as MTSU prepares to move to Division A next year.

Despite a safety on MTSU's first drive, the Blue Raiders were able to score touchdowns on their next two possessions.

"The game didn't start off as I had planned," said Head Coach Boots Donnelly. "At times, I thought their players were really happy I was leaving."

Tech won the opening kick off and deferred to MTSU. The Raiders received the opening and started out on their own 22-yard line. However, a sack and an incompletion left MTSU in a fourth-and-12 situation. Unfortunately, the punt snap sailed past the MTSU punter and through the end zone for a safety.

MTSU punted on the safety kick and the Golden Eagles received excellent field possession at their own 46-yard line. Thanks to five carriers and 17 yards by Tech tailback Jerome Tillman, the Eagles scored a touchdown following an eight-play, 54-yard drive.

When the Raiders received the ball, they were already down 9-0. Sulecio Sanford returned the kick off 20-yards to the MTSU 26. Quarterback Wes Counts drove the team down the field by going three-for-three in passing on the drive. Matt

Lowe converted on a third-and-thirteen by receiving a Counts pass for 16 yards. Two plays later on second-and-two, Counts threw to Sanford who sliced through the Eagle defense for a gain of 53 yards and a Blue Raider touchdown.

On their next drive, the Eagle offense went three plays and out. Tech punter Andy Dorsey kicked it through the end zone for a touchback.

MTSU started at the 20 yard line with five minutes and 50 seconds left in the first quarter. Sanford racked up 53 all-purpose yards on four receptions and a run. The drive capped off with Counts completing a pass to Sanford for eleven yards and a touchdown. At the 14:09 mark of the second quarter, the score was 13-9 MTSU.

Once again, the Tech offense sputtered down the field and eventually down the field and eventually stalled. Dorsey punted the ball inside the ten to the nine, where it was downed. MTSU was up to the task of the long drive. However, penalties and sacks killed it, but not before the Raiders went 83 yards on 15 plays. Keegan Ray put three points on the board with a 25-yard field goal.

Counts completed 15 of 22 passes for 212 yards in the first half. Sanford caught seven balls for 125 yards and two touchdowns.

"He is getting little swagger. I thought the last two games he's played exceptionally," Donnelly said.

The second half rolled along until Dorsey mishandled a high snap on fourth-and-nine and was thrown for a big loss of



nine yards. The Raiders did not get seven points, however, as Ray added a 29-yard field goal to make the score 19-9 in favor of the Blue Raiders.

The Raider defense stymied the Tech offense all game, and the fourth quarter was no exception. Tech could not move the ball effectively until on their last possession Jerome Tillman capped a 79-yard, 17-play drive with a three-yard run.

With the score at 19-16 MTSU.Tech was needing the assistance of an onside kick.

The kick was made , but Tri Heard came up with the ball and preserved the MTSU victory.

Sanford caught eight passes for 126 yards and two touchdowns while Counts completed 18 of 26 passes for 245 yards and two touchdowns. Torin Kirtsey tried to solidify the tailback with a 19-carry 96-yard performance. He had 66 yards in the second half.

For Tennessee Tech, Tillman was the bright spot , rushing for 73 yards on 22 carries. He had only 28 yards in the second half.

According to Donnelly, the final battle for Harvey was not as sad as one might think.

"No, it wasn't sad. We've been wanting that totem pole for 20 years. When they won, they had it and when we won, they stole it. I've never laid eyes on that totem pole on our campus," he said.



Making a



Photo by Claudia Lombardo

Flat plains and accessible facilities for disabled students attracted freshman Brian Reardon, a Knoxville native, to attend MTSU.

difference

Adaptive technology available for disabled students

by John Garner

Brian Reardon is a non-traditional student at MTSU. Like almost all of the campus population, he has a full calendar. Classes and study time in the new library keep this freshman busy most of the week.

However, unlike most students, Reardon uses a wheelchair to get around campus due to an injury received nine years ago when he fell 50 feet from a balcony and broke his neck. Reardon had earned a few hours at his hometown college before the accident. However, he felt the barriers there would be almost insurmountable for a disabled person to scale.

The Knoxville native heard good things about MTSU. There aren't as many inclines to push against, and the building and classrooms provide easy access for his wheelchair.

He also understood there was a curriculum that kept disabled students from being treated like outsiders.

So he came to Murfreesboro and introduced himself to Disabled Students Services Director John Harris.

"Our department is concerned with the integration of disabled students into the mainstream," Harris said. "Traditionally, the community has said, 'Oh, you're disabled. You go here.' That's segregation."

Since 1997, one method to eliminate that social stumbling block has been the installation of adaptive technology hardware and software at university locations. Five sites around the campus enable students with disabilities to operate a computer with little or no assistance from others. A portion of MTSU student technology access fees has granted the necessary funding.

The main branch of the Adaptive Technology Center is in the new Central Library. It maintains a variety of hardware and software designed to meet special needs.

Large-screen monitors and Optelec scanners give visually impaired and learning disabled students access to the written word. The Dectalk Express speech synthesizer will translate on-screen data and scanned materials into spoken language and the Braille Embosser allows text and graphics to print out on a single page.

Standard applications, such as Windows 95/98 and Microsoft Office run alongside DragonDictate, a voice activated program that eliminates the need for typing.

"The new technology can be a little unnerving the first time a student works with it," said Eric Wright, ATC lab assistant.

"One woman came in to use the speech recognition software and got overwhelmed.

"I can understand that. Most of us feel lost the first time we try something new. With a little practice, though, this equipment can open up a world of opportunity."

Adaptive technology also can be found at computer labs in Wood/Felder Hall, Kirksey Old Main, the Learning Resource Center and the Business and Aerospace Building.

Rather than wait for complaints about what doesn't work, Harris and his staff begin the process by asking themselves what consideration a disabled person using the new services and upgraded equipment will need. But it's impossible to think of everything.

Ironically, the door at the library's ATC is a potential problem for students in wheelchairs. It automatically opens outward when the door handle is turned toward the person trying to enter the lab. The system also lacked the wall-mounted push button.

"That's the first thing that came to mind when we got a look at the new library facility," Harris said. "It's up to code and allows 33 inches of clearance. It meets the standards of the law.

"But I wish the law would stop using measurements as a standard. A person in a bigger electric wheelchairs might have difficulty getting in."

Harris added, "We're monitoring the situation. If that door turns out to be a problem, we'll address it."

The disabled students population MTSU has grown since Harris came to the university in 1985. "There were 109 special needs students at that time. Today the figure is around 700," he said. "Our graduates are given the opportunity to be successful. The university can create that opportunity, but what you do with it is your choice. Last December, disabled students made up 3 percent of the entire graduating class."

Reardon was close to never being among their number. He had a rough first semester. Sitting up for 17 hours without a break was physically difficult. The attendant assigned to assist him just wasn't working out.

"Brian came back to our office and told me he was thinking of leaving school," Harris said.

Harris put new technology aside and addressed the situation in an old fashioned way. He picked up the phone and arranged for a more compatible attendant.

"Jackie's great," Reardon said. "She's a real good attendant, always on time. I think I'm gonna make it now."

Diary of a River Rat

Campus Recreation canoes the Rio Grande



By Jennie Treadway

I had never been so dirty in my life. My naturally curly hair went straight. My silken skin dried to a barren layer of filth. My lips went from moist to parched.

But it was worth it.

The Spring Break Rio Grande canoe trip, sponsored and chauffeured by Campus Recreation, was a lesson in canoe technique, water rescue, teamwork, friendship and living simply. It was a week of adventure. And boy, were my arms exhausted.

Three vans pulled out of the Rec Center parking lot at 3 p.m. on a Friday afternoon ready for 10 days of travel. Led by Intramurals Director Wayne "WT" Taylor, his wife Teri and graduate assistants John Huck, Mitch Hoffman and Sean Hager, the group of more than 30 students were packed and eager to escape college, Murfreesboro and the

comforts of home. We would soon be in the hands of nature.

There were two Big Bend trips to choose from, both on the Rio Grande. For those just starting a canoeing career or in the mood for a lighter vacation, you could go on the 40-mile ride in the Colorado Canyons. If you were more experienced or were looking for a longer river ride, you could choose the 90-mile trip down the Lower Canyons.

I, and 19 others, chose the longer.

The road trip down to the Texas-Mexico border was an adventure in itself. We spent a rainy first night at a campsite near Arkadelphia, Ark., where a lot of the group, including myself, slept in the vans. As soon as the sun rose, we were on the road – river bound.

After a full day on the road, we spent Saturday night in a park near Monohans, Tex. Surrounded by tall sand dunes and a clear starry night, we slept outside in our down sleeping bags blanketed by the



Opposite page: WT and Teri Taylor run the Class III rapid "Rodeo" with much success. The front person in the canoe always gets the big splash.

Left: Often the Campus Recreation group got separated along the river. In order to stay together, the lead canoers would stop and rest. This allowed the rest of the group to catch up. Here, Mike Davis and Billy Lee snooze in the canyon shadows.

Above: Luke Waack and Dain Copeland relax in a natural hot spring.

All photos by Jennie Treadway.

Big Dipper, Orion and the North Star. (Tennessee must have its own night sky because it doesn't have half the stars Texas does.)

By sunrise, the 40- and 90-milers went separate ways en route to the desert.

By mid-afternoon on Sunday, I had a paddle in my hand and was making my way down the first of 90 miles on the Rio Grande. On the left side was Texas; on the right, Mexico. We'd already seen a road runner race by and our feet were muddy from loading our canoes. It soon became obvious who was a novice, who was an intermediate and who had run the river before. Most of us needed a lesson on how to hold a paddle and what to do if you tip over.

Life-jacketed and hydrated, the 85-degree weather was barely noticeable, since there is no humidity in the desert. Plus the coolness of the water instantly comforted our sunburning bodies. The sky was a deep blue—bluer than a Crayola

crayon — bluer than I'd ever seen before.

My lungs tingled as I breathed in, never having inhaled purer oxygen. We'd left civilization behind, along with our busy lives, and now we were at the mercy of the river and all the surprises it had in store.

The paddle felt awkward in my hand, having only canoed the Stones River. I'd been rafting before, as had others. However, a canoe was different, especially one filled with clothes, food and other essentials I needed for that week. My canoe partner, Chuck, also my fiancé, had about as much experiences as I. Yes, I was concerned.

It seemed to take an act of God to get our canoe to go straight. Put two stubborn people in a canoe and that's what happens. Chuck was the "driver" in the rear. I was in the front — the "motor" — and in charge of yelling, "ROCK ON RIGHT, GO LEFT!" I was also able to see the rapids first hand, able to jump bail and leave my driver motorless.



Left: Dain Copeland, an experienced canoer and camper, makes hearty pancakes in preparation for a long day on the river.

Above: WT, Huck and Jennifer look at the map to decide how much farther they have to go.

The rapids we ran were rated from a mere trickle to Class III, those named "Rodeo," "Panther," "San Francisco" and "Sanderson." I'd heard stories of these rapids during the ride down, mainly told by Lisa King, a public relations major and veteran of a previous Rio Grande trip. "Rodeo," she said, was the best. She put the fear in me.

It took a few days of little rapids and lots of technique practice to get enough confidence to run anything above a Class I. I consider myself to be in shape, but my upper body was numb by the end of the first full day of canoeing.

WT taught us how to "draw," "pry," "cross-bow draw" and how to sit on your knees (to lower your sense of gravity) when going down a big rapid. It was all foreign language to me.

I'm sure other canoers (I wouldn't have called us that before this trip) felt as nervous as I did. The tension grew when WT and Huck taught the "how to avoid drowning" lesson. We all wore life jackets the first day.

Before long, we ignored the pain in our shoulders and arms, lathered on the sunscreen and enjoyed the scenery. By day three, we were between some of the tallest canyons along the river. Somehow, we overlooked the gnats and creepy crawlers and took pleasure in the site of wild mustangs, burros and cows

grazing along the river side. Hawks and vultures hovered over the canyons while turtles sunbathed on the rocks along the bank. The sun was blazing every day, which made for spectacular sunrises and sunsets.

Aside from the rapids and scenery, we had the opportunity to explore natural hot springs. The water pours out of the side of the mountain and turns into puddles behind a flood of reeds next to the river. It was our chance to semi-clean ourselves and restore our water supply after it was purified by iodine and pH tablets.

What was probably the most difficult mission of the whole adventure was perfecting the art of communication with my canoe partner, which seemed to be an issue with other canoers. For example, Stacey Zbieg, a computer information systems major and comic of the group, was paired up with French exchange student Vincent Dhalluin, otherwise known as "the Frenchman." The comic relief overflowed from the bows of the canoe – "NO, Vincent, your OTHER left!" – we all knew there was a slight language barrier that might have made maneuvering rapids a bit tougher.

Then there was criminal justice major John Erickson and biology major Luke Waack, who tipped their canoe three times, yet never quarreled about it.

Chuck and I, on the other hand, didn't exactly flip



Left to right: John Huck, Billy Lee, W.T. Taylor, Lisa King, Russell Stephens, Vincent Dhalluin, Mike Davis, Chuck Miller, Kipp Cavalier, Luke Waack, Dain Copeland, John Erickson, Jennifer Phelps, Mark White, Leslie Ashby, Stacey Zbiegien, Christine Galle, Matthew "Bulldog" Lanphere, Jennie Treadway.

the boat . . . When we brushed up against a boulder at the bottom of the rapid and got stuck, I freaked out, jumped out and left Chuck to steer a canoe full of water. He wasn't thrilled with my graceful escape tactic, so I stayed in the boat the rest of the week.

Communicating with your paddle partner was essential if you wanted to get through a rapid with dry clothes. Because every Campus Rec trip errs on the side of safety, we would dock our boats before the bigger rapids and scout it as a group. We'd then discuss our plan of attack — who's on left, who's on right, how will the driver steer and will the front person draw or cross-bow draw . We had to be completely clear on our runs in order to be successful. However, even with an ideal plan to run a Class III rapid, the water can be too overpowering and the canoe will tip.

Canoeing wasn't the only perk of this trip. Camping every night led the group to learn survival skills, how to cook with limited supplies and the proper etiquette for waste disposal — and I don't mean trash. Yes, we had a toilet, if you want to call it that. The basics of wilderness skills include leaving nature in better shape than when you found it. We brought along a cooler contraption — a Gatorade cooler with a bag inside filled with lime sand and a toilet seat placed on top. (It wasn't as bad as it sounds.) Need-

less to say, we left the riverbanks clean.

Cooking was actually a pleasure. I found out that you don't have to eat only trail mix and cold hot dogs. Since Chuck and I were paired up with professional campers (WT and Teri), we ate well. Pancakes, biscuits, eggs and bagels for breakfast; spaghetti, burritos , chili, rice and black beans for dinner . . . yes, we ate well. We needed the energy.

Panama City could not have compared to the adventure I had on the Texas-Mexico border. A lot happened in one week: I spent six days in the desert, saw animals I'd never seen before, canoed 90 miles for the first time, learned to cook in the great outdoors, met people completely unlike me, washed my hair in a natural spring, watched the sun rise and set over 500 ft. canyons, listened to coyotes howl at night, woke up to the sound of rushing water, and fell asleep to the sound of the wind—plus I saw a side of myself I never knew existed. I've been camping many times, hiked many trails, but have never lived a week outside civilization. I may use computers, drive my truck everywhere, watch TV at night and use my microwave to cook, but I can live simply.

In fact, I enjoy it.

Former Mr. MTSU lands role in video

Dylan Roberson "discovered" at MTSU contest

By Ruth Peltier

Dylan Roberson had no idea when he entered and won the Mr. MTSU contest last year that he was launching a showbusiness career, a career that is making him a music-video star.

Roberson played the lead in the John Micheal Montgomery video, "Hello L.O.V.E." The video tells the usual boy-chases-girl-until-she-catches-him story, but one has to wonder what happened to the truck Roberson abandons in the middle of the highway.

The Mr. MTSU contest, sponsored by Chi Omega, was indirectly responsible for Roberson's getting the opportunity to do the video.

Roberson entered the contest representing his fraternity, Kappa Sigma. Nesie Davis, head of Advantage Models and Talent, was one of the judges of the contest. Agency representatives encouraged Roberson to sign a contract with them, and it was through Advantage that he received the chance to do the video.

Because John Micheal Montgomery's part of the video was filmed at another location, Roberson did not get to meet the star, but he still enjoyed the 12-hour day he spent working on the project.

"I didn't know what to expect at first," Roberson said. "but it was a lot of fun."

He is now hoping to do other videos, commercials

and perhaps theater. He worked as an extra on the film. "Oblivious." Although it was produced mainly for release overseas, this film should show up in U.S. video stores in about a year.

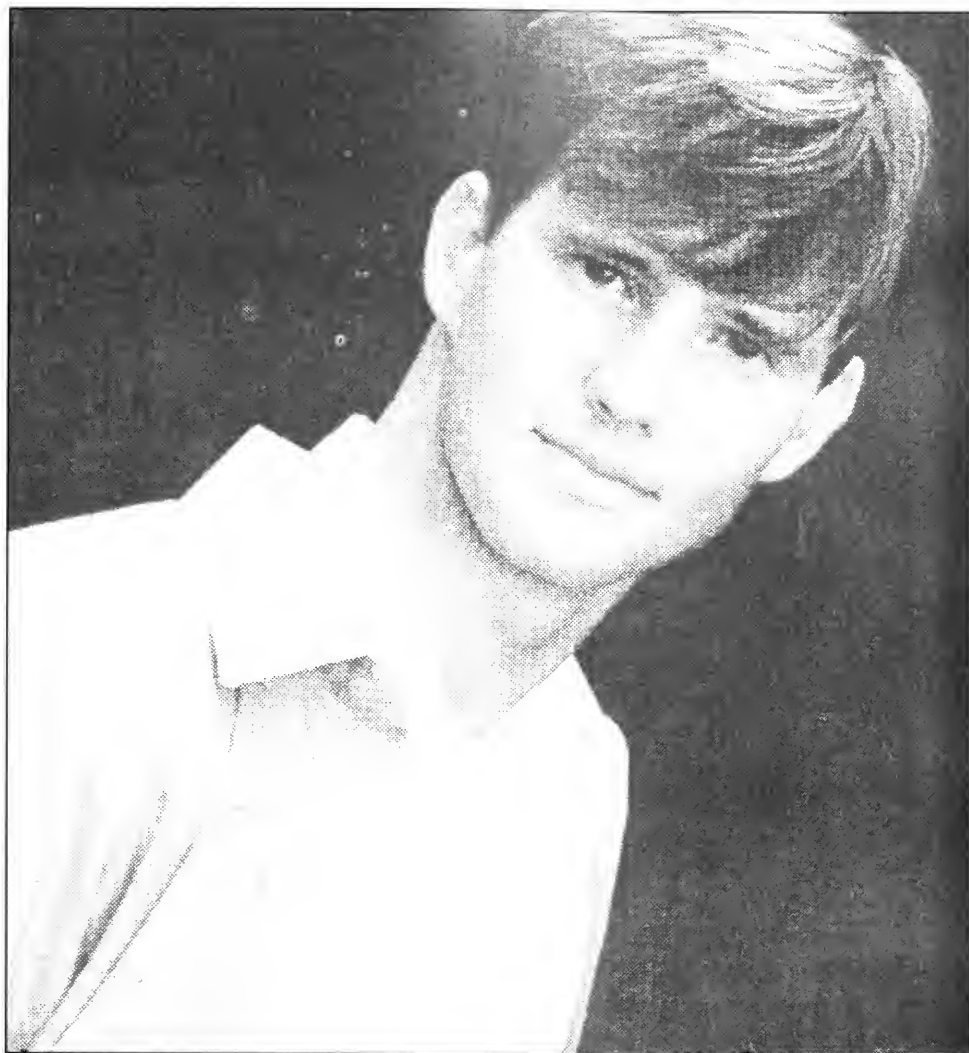
This summer he plans to attend the Millie Lewis Convention, a gathering of aspiring entertainers and representatives from national and international modeling and talent groups and record labels. According to Roberson, 30 to 40 percent of the performers who attend are able to find professional outlets for their talent.

Roberson, now a senior, came to MTSU two years ago to participate in the school's recording industry program. Before he came here, he tried several different colleges and majors. He had always wanted to go into music publishing, but he had resisted the idea because he knew how hard it would be to break into the music business.

Finally, he decided he had to follow his dream.

"I came up here to give it a shot," Roberson said. "I don't want to have to look back and say that I didn't even try."

Roberson and his father write music together and perform regularly as the Dylan Blake Band, formerly called Stone Farmers. Thirty to 40 percent of their material is original. The rest of the time they perform songs by other artists. They travel to several Middle Tennessee locations and they choose their music depending on the tastes of the audience they are



entertaining. When they play at Mainstreet, for example, they use songs from the Wallflowers or Matchbox 20. However, when they play at Clata's Place in Dunlap, Tenn., they switch to songs made popular by Garth Brooks, Tim McGraw or Merle Haggard.

When father and son are writing songs together they usually agree on the lyrics, Roberson said, but when it comes to the music, they frequently argue. The elder Roberson likes country music; the younger prefers pop.

Nevertheless, Roberson says he enjoys listening to

all kinds of music. The lyrics and the stories they tell are more important to him than the musical style. However, he added that it is important for the music, even without the words, to make the listener feel something.

In high school, Roberson preferred the music of Led Zeppelin, but now his favorite artist is Eric Clapton.

Roberson is planning to start an internship in the field of music publishing in the fall and after graduation wants to continue in that field. He dreams of someday publishing his own songs.



Ground broken for

By Brian Forrester

Greek Row has been a 30-year project in the making, enduring on-again, off-again discussions. However, the project reached fruition when ground was broken for eight fraternity houses as part of housing activities.

MTSU's commitment to building a Greek Row is ground-breaking itself. This will be the first Greek Row in the Tennessee Board of Regents system, and only the second in the state. MTSU, recognized as a growing university that is moving forward has moved up another level.

"This is just the beginning. Our competition is switching from Memphis to Knoxville," said James Walker, president of MTSU. The contracting for Greek Row is a joint venture among Everton,

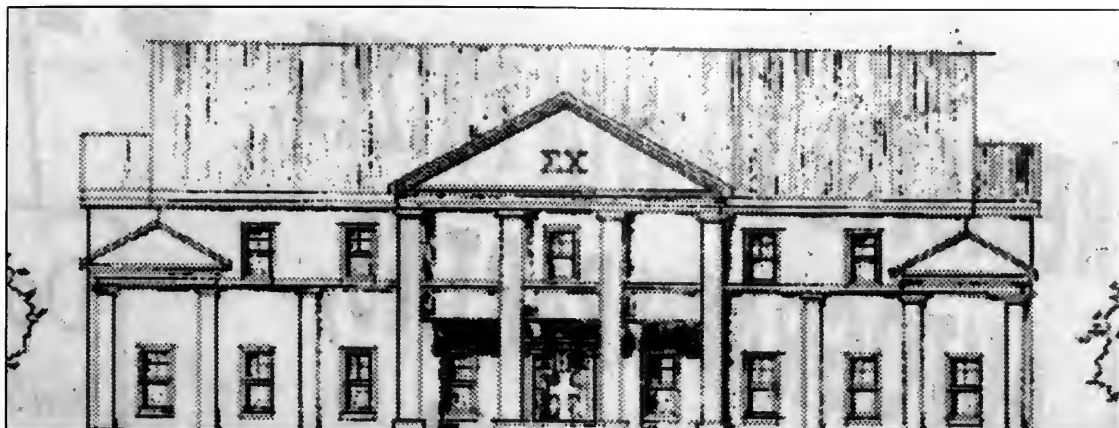
Oglesby & Askew, and Gresham & Smith, Eng./Richard Cole, electrical. The site is located on 10 acres of campus near Rutherford Boulevard.

Greek Row will consist of eight fraternity houses, varying in size from 7,600 to 13,000 Square feet. The cost per house will range from \$767,000 to \$1.2 million. The houses will be completed and ready for occupancy in January 2000.

Each house will room between 20 and 40 men. The total occupancy for the houses is 233 residents.

The houses will vary based on individual fraternity preferences. All houses will feature a multi-purpose room, which will function as an area for dining, meeting and recreation. They all will be furnished with a large patio for gathering outside, and each will have a sprinkler system.

All occupants will be provided with a phone and computer outlet, and each house will have a down-



Above: Sigma Chi's fraternity house will be one of eight initial houses when Greek Row opens in January 2000. This drawing shows how the completed house should look.

Left and Right: Houses for Greek Row, which is expected to open January 2000, are under construction off Rutherford Boulevard behind the Recreation Center. Eight fraternities are building houses for the initial Greek Row opening, and land has been set aside for future expansion. MTSU's Greek Row will be the first in the Tennessee Board of Regents system and the second in Tennessee. After completion, Greek Row houses are expected to hold 233 residents.



MTSU's Greek Row

stairs bedroom accessible for disabled students. This information was provided by a statement issued by MTSU public relations.

The construction of Greek Row is expected to benefit the campus and student body. "It [Greek Row] will add diversity to campus," said Robert LaLance Jr., vice president for Student Affairs.

"Once we have hundreds of fraternity men residing on campus, there are going to be a lot more activities planned for the weekends," added Vic Felts, director of Greek Life.

The project has been under discussion for the past 30 years and the groundbreaking ceremony was described by architect Gary Askew as, "more of a victory party than a groundbreaking."

"Without hard work, this would not have happened," said Burke, director of student life.

Richard Barnes, 1963 alumnus and founding presi-

dent of the local Kappa Alpha chapter, said that he and others formed the first KA chapter under threat of dismissal from the university if they did not disband. Barnes looks at Greek Row as something only dreamed of 35 years ago.

"We are here today because of not giving up," Walker said.

No sorority house has committed to building a house on the Row. LaLance said that this is only phase one of an overall project to improve student life on campus.

Though another opportunity for sororities or fraternities to move onto campus are at least a few years away, they will have another opportunity if they desire.

Additional land has been set aside for additional Greek houses.

It's a swing thing

Swing dancing isn't new,
but it's the newest craze



By Amanda Virgillito

It's hot, it's in, it's the latest thing. It's swing dancing. Swing dancing is not really new. Although swing has become the newest craze, it's been around for quite some time. Many people, young and old, enjoy the fun and upbeat style of the music and dancing, but are not aware of the history behind the fun.

Swing's origins date back to the 1860's with closed-couple dances, such as the waltz and the polka. These dances were unacceptable to society because of the close spacing between the couples. By the time 1912 rolled around, this style of close dancing became more tolerated. Ragtime music was the popular style, which featured syncopated melodies.

The year of 1912 also brought Harry Fox and the Fox trot. This dance evolved into the Charleston of the 1920s, which eventually led to the swing-jazz of the '30's.

Swing dancing has been credited to such artists as Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Jimmie Lunceford. Swing reached its peak popularity around 1936 with a multitude of big bands and dance halls.

Common terms for swing dancers are Jitterbugs and Lindy Hoppers. Radio deejays described the swingers as looking like jitterbugs, thus the term was coined. The term Lindy Hoppers reportedly originated when a dancer in the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem commented: "I'm flying just like Lindy" in reference to Charles Lindburgh's famous solo flight in 1927.

Other dance names include the Texas Tommy, which originated in 1913 in the Broadway show "Darkroom Follies" and Black Bottom from the show "Scandals of 1926."

Some regional dances are the East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing, Big Apple and the Shim Sham Shimmy.



Swing dancing allows much more freedom to a couple as long as the basic rhythm is upheld. The partners keep the pattern and can add their own personal style. Basic turns, dig steps, step-hops, kick steps and even jumps and lifts can be added to the basic rhythm of swing.

The space between partners as the man leads is controlled by elbow tension, which is never fully extended. Moves must be controlled, quick and simultaneous. Contact between the couple must never be lost.

Swing dances normally cover a circular space on the floor and the steps are small and close together.

Swing dancing is easy for beginners, because the dancers control the difficulty of the steps. Personal touches make the dance more difficult for advanced swingers.

Increased popularity of the dance style has many places promoting and teaching swing. Many clubs and dance studios offer swing dancing lessons for learning the basics.

Remember, next time the desire strikes to “Jump, Jive and Wail” with the rest of ‘em, swing dancers are keeping a part of history alive and having a swinging good time.



Breaking new ground

Construction begins on new campus apartments

By Dustin Schrimpscher

Construction of 104 new on campus apartments began on Second Street began this year.

According to the department of housing and residential life, designs for new on campus housing reflect the needs of today's students.

Debra Sells, director of housing and residential life, said the garden-style apartments will each offer two bathrooms, four private bedrooms and a full-size kitchen and living room.

"We're not able to build these new apartments for less than off campus housing," Sells said. "Cost [to students] will be comparable to that of off campus housing such as University Terrace on Old Lascassas Highway."

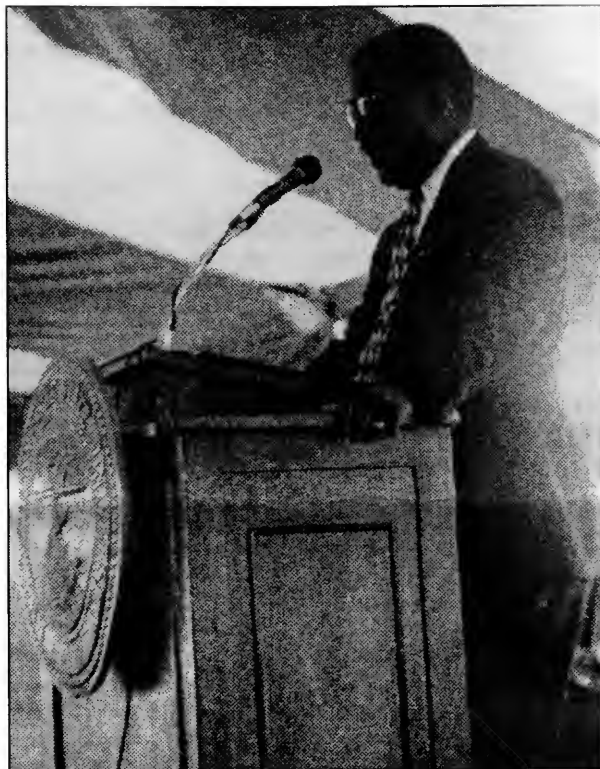
Sells said several factors will make the new on campus apartments attractive to students: each resident will sign an individual license agreement, financial aid can go toward license agreement fees and a payment plan will be offered for students with no financial aid.

"These apartments will feature multiple electrical

Photos by Katie Wise

Right: Construction is underway for the 104 garden-style apartments, which are expected to be completed in fall of 1999. Each apartment will hold four students, making a total of 416 residents.

Left: President Walker speaks to the crowd at the new apartments ground-breaking ceremony. Students, faculty and staff attended the ceremony, which was held in June 1998.



outlets, often missed by students in older on-campus housing,” Sells said. “The new housing will also provide direct access to the university computer network in each bedroom.”

“Like most new buildings on campus, [the new apartments] will be constructed with Ethernet capabilities,” added John Schmidt of the Office of Information Technology. “As long as students have a computer powerful enough to run the necessary software, they will have the same capabilities as on campus computer labs and faculty offices.”

The university has not yet determined what fees, if any, will be tied to Internet access.

Another advantage to the on campus apartments will be plentiful parking.

“There will be parking space for every bed,” said Bill Smotherman, director of construction administration. “It’s great they did it that way.”

According to Sells, parking services may utilize a new approach to manage these 416 new parking spaces.

“We have not finalized discussion with parking services but currently, only residents in the new apartments will be able to park in that lot but those students will not be allowed to park anywhere else on campus,” she said.

According to Deborah Roberts, director of the administrative services office of vice president for

finance and administration, the University Traffic Committee has discussed this but has not made a recommendation.

“This will hopefully be discussed and officially recommended during the traffic committee meeting” Roberts said. “Once it has been recommended and approved, Parking Services will then make plans for this to happen.”

As an auxiliary department, the department of housing and residential life receives no funding from either MTSU or the state, operating solely from funds collected from residents’ fees.

The last residence halls constructed at MTSU were Ezell and Abernathy Apartments, built 1973. They were not poorly designed, Sells said, but were designed for students of that time period.

“In ‘73 it was very much the norm that siblings shared bedrooms. Now most students have never shared a bedroom before,” Sells explained.

MUSIC

A

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*English professor teaches
composition by day and
writes compositions by night*

By Stacie Odeneal

At the end of a test or the beginning of a lecture, it seems as though a professor's life revolves around nothing but research topics and essay questions. Many professors, however, lead a secret life, including Steven Rizzo.

By day, Rizzo teaches composition for MTSU's English department. By night, he is a country songwriter with 120 written songs, three of which have been published.

Rizzo said his songwriting career started his freshman year of college, when he wondered on his way to school if he could incorporate his poetic past into song. By the time he got to class, he had most of his first song written.

Originally from Bryan, Tex., he wasn't big fan of country music until his senior year of high school.

"I was flipping through the radio when I heard 'I

Should Be With You Right Now' by Steve Wariner, and I loved it." Rizzo said. "Then I bought his album and I loved the whole thing."

The country bug bit even harder when a three-year relationship ended.

"I had lots of inspiration and my roommate at the time had written some. It just grew from there."

Songwriting complements his professorship nicely. Not only does teaching at the college level provide flexible hours, but songwriting and composition are almost one in the same.

Rizzo said, "Songs involve a lot of details, coherency, imagery and metaphors just like composition. On the other hand, reading for class gives me new ideas and different aspects of styles for my songs."

Rizzo said songwriting is not the rose garden it may seem. The industry is very competitive and involves industry politics that can be frustrating.

The art of songwriting isn't so easy either, especially when it comes to country music.



Photo provided

English professor Steven Rizzo performs with his wife Amy.

"It's difficult to be clear in a song and still have a deeper meaning," he said. "In country music, you have to use common language and be direct, compared to poetry that can use terms that are more vague."

While he hopes to be a songwriting success, Rizzo has come to enjoy teaching far more than he expected.

"Ideally, I'd like to keep teaching even if I 'make it' in songwriting."

However, he has some advice for those who want to go all the way into a career on Music Row.

"Be open to criticism, but don't accept everything people tell you," Rizzo said. "Have your opinion and stick with what you feel is good about your music."



Karate benefits mind and body

By Keith Ryan Cartwright

Merely mentioning the word “karate” generally conjures up vivid thoughts of highly conditioned athletes with lightning quickness and an ability to kick high above their heads.

Through the years, karate has gained a great deal of attention from the acting careers of Bruce Lee, Chuck Norris, Jean-Claude VanDamme and, most recently, Jackie Chan. However, their very public display of karate as a sport has gone just as far in terms of stereotyping.

“That’s the way a lot of people view karate because that’s what they see on tv or in the movies,” said martial artist Bill Taylor.

As an art form, karate is much different than it is as a sport. In fact, as an art, karate can be practiced and enjoyed by everyone.

Since 1984, Taylor has taught a beginning karate course at MTSU and during that time, he’s had a student with one arm, a blind student and three students in wheelchairs. Currently, he is working with a student who has Down Syndrome.

“I don’t know anybody who couldn’t take this class,” Taylor said. “Karate is not something where a certain level of physical attributes are needed in order to be successful.”

The karate course, offered through the health, physical education and recreation department, is an introduction not only to some of the basic moves but also to the terminology associated with karate as well.

According to Taylor, who aside from being a six-degree black belt is also a world class kickboxer, the class is designed for students who begin with virtually no experience.

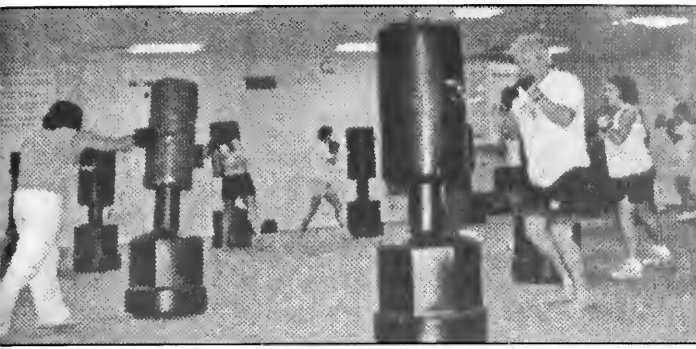
“Personal potential is what you’re trying to realize,” Taylor said. “What can I do? That’s what you’re competing against. It’s more about how far can I take my body?”

Students enrolled in Taylor’s course do not take part in any full-contact sparring. Instead they learn how to increase their balance, flexibility, strength and cardiovascular endurance. As the class progresses, they learn some of the basic stances, punches, kicks and blocks.

Aside from the terms and physical moves learned, students also benefit from developing an ability to focus and concentrate. One of karate’s biggest characteristics – which can easily transfer into a student’s academic life – is discipline.

One student, Steve Holt, had no prior experience in martial arts before taking Taylor’s class but has since become program director at Taylor’s private school in Murfreesboro. Holt, who holds a bachelor’s degree in aerospace and master’s degree in flight resource, stumbled upon the beginning karate while looking through a schedule book in 1986. Deciding not to pursue college baseball, Holt found karate as a means of remaining active.

“I enjoyed the physical aspect of karate as well as the mental part of it,” Holt said, “but I really just got lucky in finding someone like Mr. Taylor to learn from. He is the most generous and honestly nice person I have ever met in my life.”



Left: Bill Taylor leads his students during a Wednesday night aerobic kickboxing class.

Right: Rachel Friedman protects herself from her opponent's kick.

All photos by Jennie Treadway.



Karate, coupled with Taylor's personality, had a profound impact on Holt's life as a student. During high school, Holt characterized himself as a typical C student. However, after spending time with Taylor and learning the discipline that goes along with karate, Holt managed a 3.8 GPA in one of the toughest curriculums offered at MTSU.

"I attribute that to what I was learning from Mr. Taylor," said Holt, who will be testing for his fourth degree black belt.

Over the years, Taylor's classes have become some of the most popular HPER courses available. According to Taylor, two factors have led to his courses

filling as quickly as they do – the fitness craze and self-defense.

Along with the two beginning karate classes, Taylor also instructs a women's self defense course.

"I try to keep the karate class as traditional as I can. You're trying to build respect as well as humility and self-esteem," Taylor explained. "The self defense – actually they're going to start calling it ladies self defense because it's 99 percent ladies – it's non-traditional. It's more hands-on. You get right into learning how to protect your head, what to do when someone grabs you in a choke hold or something like that."

Upon finishing the beginning karate course, Taylor gives students the option to test for their orange belt. Whether they pass the test or not, the outcome does not affect their grade. However, should they be awarded the belt, it is recognized by any Wado school in the world.

Taylor also gives 45 percent discounts to any MTSU student who wishes to enroll at Bill Taylor's Bushido School of Karate, located at 1820 N.W. Broad Street. The school is currently the 13th largest in North America with over 600 students and ranks in the top 200.

"I was a college student once myself, so I know that finances can be tight," Taylor said. "I remember I was 18 and in college. You can go out and blow off some stress by drinking all night at the 'Boro, or you can do something constructive. Karate's a good stress reliever, and it's not going to give you a hangover the next morning."

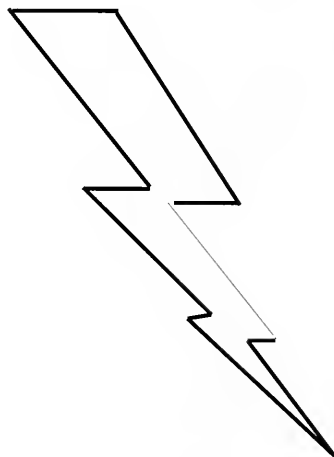


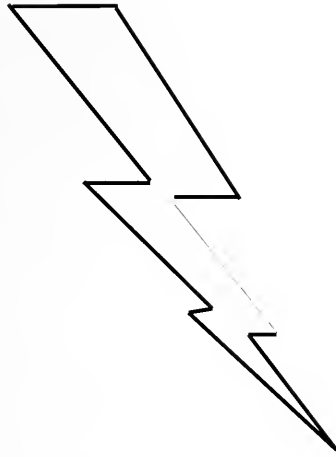


File Photo

The MTSU Band of Blue practices for their performances at Blue Raider home football games.

1998-1999





CALENDAR



File photo

A group of Polynesian dancers perform on the KUC Knoll as part of International Culture Week, which occurs in spring.

June / July 1998



James M. Barco named Director of Development

Housing begins Dorm Renovation Project

Construction on Scarlett Commons begins

Large-scale human testing of AIDS vaccine begins in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Coca-Cola outbids Pepsi-cola for official MTSU soft drink for the next 4 years

Heart of Tennessee Chapter of American Red Cross holds Blood Drive

Blue Raider Book Store on Greenland Drive finishes renovations, opens for business

C U S T O M S



August 1998

Dorms open August 16

Classes begin August 19

Financial frustration hits students
when loan checks are late

Parking pains students for yet
another year



Cummings Hall goes freshman
co-ed style

American Heart Association
holds Heart Walk

Honors College Founded

September 1998



Career Day at the Murphy Center

Founder's Day

Coach Boots Donnelly Resigns

Administration voids over 4,500 citations worth more than \$127,000

Engineers stop KOM from settling further

Scotty Tucker Memorial Scholarship Fund Founded



October 1998

String of sexual assaults has
police searching

HOMECOMING

Annual Scottish Festival

Professor Albert E. DePrince
Jr. receives Distinguished
Research Award

Ground broken for Greek
Row

Carmen Jones crowned
Homecoming Queen



Family Day/ Senior Fall
Preview Day

MTSU ROTC cadets place
2nd in 1998 ROTC 3rd
Brigade Ranger Challenge
Competition

MTSU Symphony per-
forms as part of the Cen-
tennial Celbration of Phi
Mu Alpha Sinfonia Frater-
nity, Inc.

Mid-terms

Fall Break



November 1998



Flute Week November 15 - 22

Last Division 1-AA football game

Senior Day

Social Science Symposium

Dance Club Recital

The Who's "Tommy" is performed by MTSU Theatre

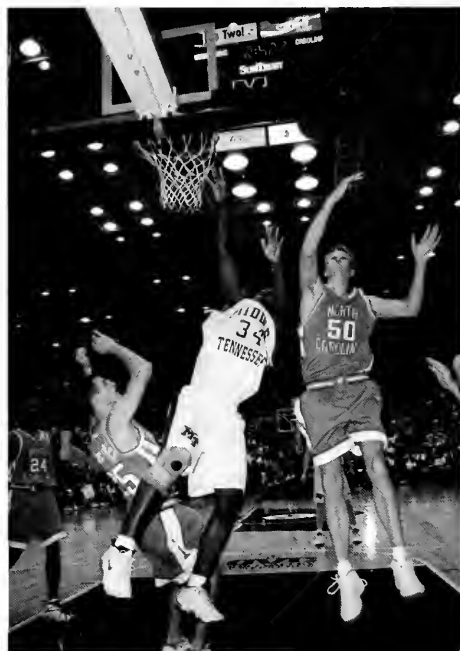
Phish concert comes to campus

Kappa Zi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., becomes Tennessee Chapter of the Year

Meters placed in front of each dorm

Let Every Woman performs "One Night Stand"

Thanksgiving



December 1998

Associate Professor Cindi Smith-Walters
is named Teacher of the Year

Finals

Christmas Break



Happy Holidays!!



January 1999

Happy New Year!!

15 minute break between classes begins

Jennings A. Jones awarded honorary lifetime membership in Phi Kappa Phi

Esther Million Seeman, Japan Center Director, dies at age 76

Boston Pops performs at the Murphy Center

Writing Center doubles in size

Tornado Tears into Clarksville, Rips up Austin Peay State University

Office of Information Technology declares MTSU ready for Y2K

Intermedia cuts back campus cable services

The man the Murphy Center was named after, Charles M. "Bubber" Murphy, dies

Miss MTSU crowned

Miss MT Blue Raider crowned



February 1999

MTSU Blues Crusade

Financial Aid moves to Todd building
while offices in Cope are renovated

Village Drum and Dance Ensemble
performs at Tucker to celebrate Afri-
can-American History Month

Women in Power Conference

Aramark bids to keep MTSU Food
Service Contract for 4 more years

Two windows shot out in new Uni-
versity Library

Golden Key National Honor Society
inducts 360 new members

Assistant Professor Scott Inks is
named 1998-1999 "Outstanding Pro-
fessor in the College of Business"

MTSU Alumnus Morgan High is
crowned Miss Tennessee and runner-
up to Miss USA

Chinese New Year, Year of the Rabbit
begins

Professor Laura Jarmon wins John
Pleas Faculty Award

Valentines Day



March 1999

National Women's History Month

Safe Spring Break Week

SPRING BREAK!!

Wesley Foundation funds production of
"Godspell"

Native American Heritage Society and
Middle Tennessee Anthropology Society
sponsor powwow at Livestock Center

Ezell and Abernathy Halls evacuated



April / May 1999

Uniform Equality Committee protests refusal to change discrimination policy

Financial Aid office returns to the newly renovated section of Cope

President Walker receives Human Relations Award

American Cancer Society Fundraiser lets students bash wrecked car with sledgehammer

Residence Hall Week cookout near Judd and Gracy Halls

New Library celebrates Formal Grand Opening

Cyber Cafe at Woodmore opens to students

URHA Raider Recognition Awards

College of Liberal Arts holds annual award reception

Coach Riley participates in American Diabetes Association's "I Want To Kiss A Pig" Contest

Tau Omicron All Sing, Beta Theta Phi voted overall winner

Art Appreciation Week

Cajun Feast sponsored by Rutherford County MTSU Alumni Chapter



Tennessee Senator Bill Frist sprays at graduation, May 8



ay, April 20, 1999

WE

WILL

On this date in Littleton, Colorado, 13 students and one teacher were killed at Columbine High School. Never to walk out again. But for other people in the classes or the hallway, not concerned about their lives. The nation hurried off to work and school with no idea of what that day would bring.

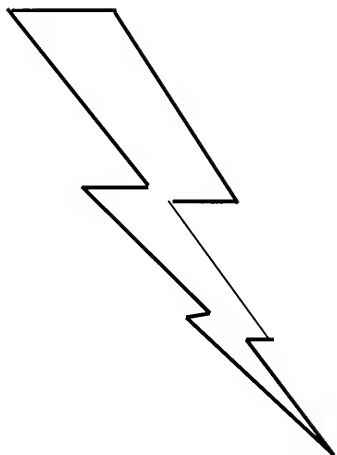
What awaited them that day. Carrying on as if nothing happened. Harris and Klebs got into that car with 13 people, and then finally

can never get what happened there. We cannot let go of the images of terrified students and teachers running for their lives as two fellow students massacred their classmates.



NEVER

NO



MTSU



A class meets outside in late September to enjoy the fall air before it turns cold for the winter.

File photo



Students raise their hands during class to answer their professor's question.

File photo

ACADEMICS



It's A Whole



Photo by Derrick Wilson

New World!

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS STAFF



James Walker
President



Forrestine Williams
Affirmative Action Director



Brenda Burkhart
Internal Audit Director



Lee Fowler
Athletic Director



Wendy Thompson
Legal Assistant

VICE PRESIDENTS



Barbara Haskew
Academic Affairs



Robert LaLance Jr.
Student Affairs

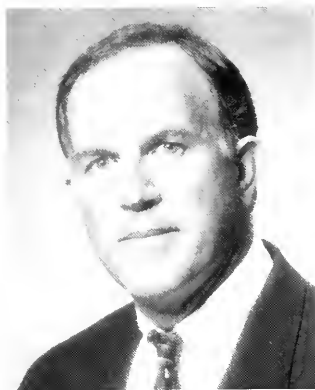


Linda Hare
Development and
University Relations



Duane Stucky
Finance and
Administration

DEANS



Tom Burke
Student Life



Rosemary Owens
Continuing Studies



John Paul Montgomery
Honors College



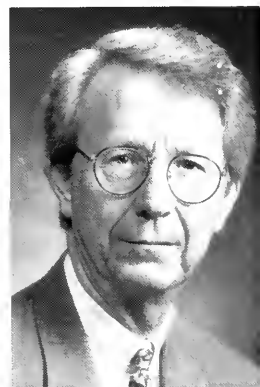
John McDaniel
Liberal Arts



Earl Kesse
Basic & Applied Science



Gloria Bonner
Youth Education



Deryl Leaming
Mass Communication



Don Craig
Library



Don Curry
Graduate Studies

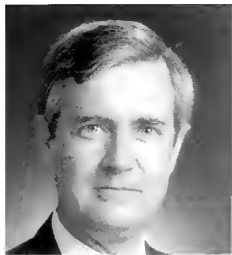


Rick Elam
Business

ADMINISTRATORS



John David Hays
Associate Vice President
Student Affairs



Bob Jones
Associate Vice President
Academic Affairs



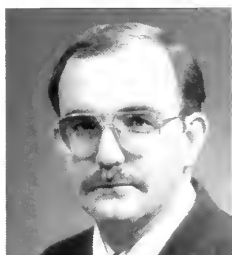
Faye Johnson
Assistant to Provost



Cliff Gillespie
Associate Vice President
Enrollment Management



Lucinda Lea
Information Technology



Wayne Rollins
Cooperative Education



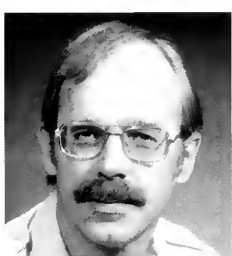
Patti Miller
Campus Planning



Jeanne Massaquoi
Athletic Academic
Advisement



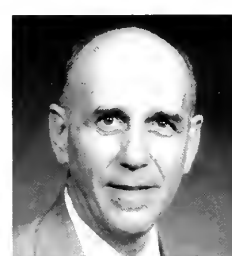
Cornelia Wills
Institutional Research



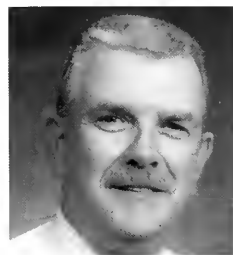
Tony Snook
Printing Services



Larry Counts
Blue Raider Athletic
Association



Bill Smotherman
Physical Plant



Jack Drugmand
Campus Security



Suma Clark
Publications & Graphics



Debbie Coppinger
Alumni Association



Doug Williams
News & Public Affairs

ADMINISTRATORS



Jo Edwards
Adams Chair of
Excellence



Deborah Roberts
Administrative Services



Bob Adams
Associate Vice President
Finance and Administration



Carol Ann Baily
Adult Services



Bonnie Shipp
African-American
Studies



Debra Gentry
Assistant Vice President
Dev. and Univ. Relations



Jack Ross
Photographic Services



Rebecca Cole
Assistant Vice President
Academic Affairs



John Hugh
Auxiliary Services



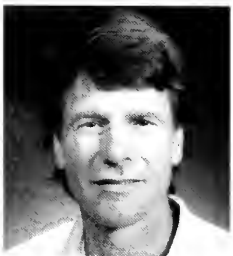
Donald Zlotky
Building Services



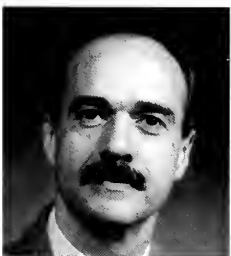
Dorothy McCallie
Bursar



Jackie Eller
Women's Studies



Glenn Hanley
Campus Recreation



Paul Wells
Center for Popular Music



Candace Rosovsky
Women's Center



Jane Tipps
Counseling and Testing

ADMINISTRATORS



Carol Bader
Developmental Studies



Dot Harrison
Develop. Comm./
Marketing



John Harris
Disabled Student
Services



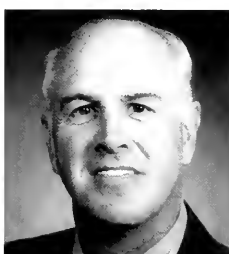
Reginald Floyd
Energy Services



Jenny Crouch
Student Publications



Martha Turner
Placement and
Student Employment



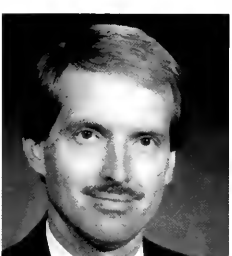
Earl Harris
Phillips Bookstore



Vic Felts
Greek Life



Barbara Martin
Health Services



Steve Prichard



Debra Sells
Housing and
Residential Life



Harold Smith
Student Unions and
Programming



Tech Wubneh
International Programs
and Services



Ralph Metcalf
Multi-Cultural Affairs

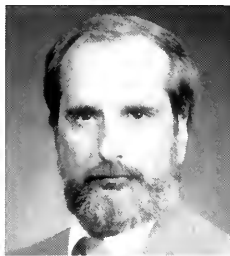


Gayle Barker
Payroll Services

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS



William Grasty
Accounting



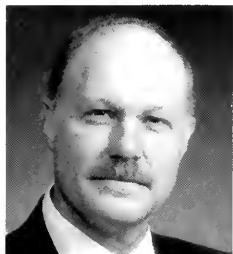
Ronald Ferrara
Aerospace



Harley Fouch
Agriculture



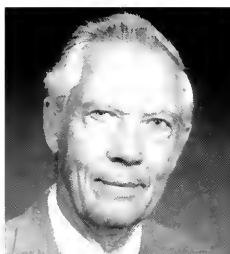
Carlyle Johnson
Art



George Murphy
Biology



Linda McGraw
BMOM



James Hutchinson
Chemistry



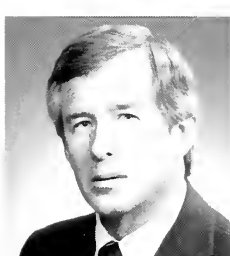
Michael Gibson
CIS



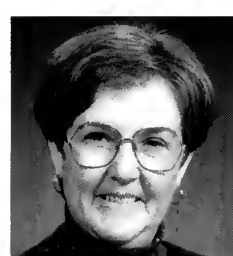
Thomas Cheatham
Computer Science



Frank Lee
Criminal Justice
Administration



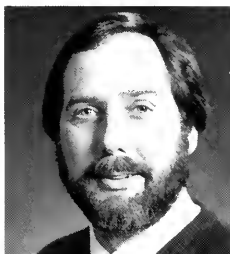
John Lee
Economics and Finance



Nancy Keese
Ed. Leadership



Charles Babb
Elem. and Special Ed.



William Connelly
English



Judith Rusciolelli
Foreign Languages and
Literature



Martha Whaley
HPERS

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS



Thaddeus Smith
History



Karla Hughes
Human Services



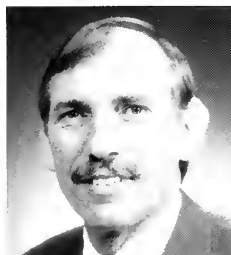
James Lorenz
Industrial Studies



Richard Campbell
Journalism



Jill Austin
Management and
Marketing



Ray Phillips
Mathematical Sciences



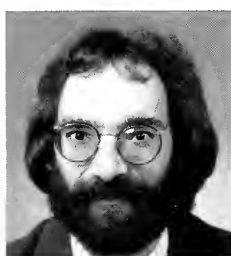
Doug Chaffin
Military Science



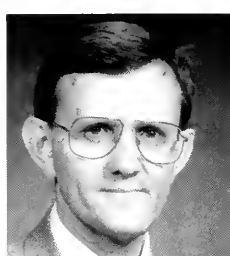
Jim Brooks
Music, Speech and
Theatre



Judith Wakim
Nursing



Ron Bombardi
Philosophy



Robert Carlton
Physics and Astronomy



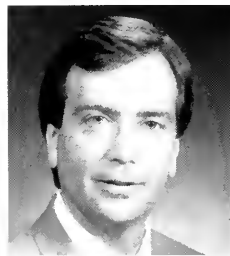
John Vile
Political Science



Larry Morris
Psychology



Mary Nichols
Radio, Television and
Photography



Richard Barnett
Recording Industry



Peter Heller
Sociology, Anthropology
and Social Work



LaLance steps down from

By John Lynch, News and Public Affairs

Almost 50,000 students have received their diplomas from MTSU since Dr. Bob LaLance Jr. came to Middle Tennessee State Teacher's College in 1963.

He began as an instructor in the department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and advanced through three other positions before being named Vice President for Student Affairs. LaLance retired in December but remains on campus to teach in the HPERS department.

Looking back on his years at MTSU, he observes that students have changed considerably since he began his career. "Our students are more sophisticated today and not as naive as they were when I started. More are from families with college educations, and they have higher expectations," LaLance said.

"When I first came here, students were more willing to accept whatever school said. Their attitude was, whatever the school says we need is OK with us. Today our students are better prepared and more aware," he said.

From 1965 until 1970, LaLance was the residence hall director at Gore Hall.

His wife, Martha Lou, said living in Gore was an important chapter in their family's life. "We opened up Gore Hall.

We were the first dorm parents. We come there with our first child, Wendy; and when we moved out, there were two more, Chuck and Amy," Martha LaLance said.

Wendy graduated from MTSU in 1985, Chuck in 1989. Amy graduated Western Kentucky University.

"This experience gave Bob a chance to see the students firsthand — their personalities and their problems. The boys in the dorm played with our kids, and they baby-sat with them," Martha Lou continued.

The LaLances have four grandchildren. "I really enjoy my grandchildren and hope I'll have more opportunity to spend time with them," he says.

"I've grown up professionally with this institution," says LaLance. "I have a real sense of belonging and friendships with many long-time colleagues."

He generously praises his staff, giving them credit for the harmonious relationship between students and administration. "I get a sense of accomplishment watching a talented and gifted staff translate a general set of instructions into something beneficial to students."

Those who have worked with him are equally generous in their praise of him. Harold Smith, director of Student Unions and Programming, has worked with Bob for many years. "Dr. Robert LaLance is a fantastic boss. Bob LaLance is a very good friend of mine and has had a big influence on my life.



Left: Vice President for Student Affairs Robert LaLance, far right, poses for the 1979 yearbook with fellow vice presidents Morris Bass, business and finance, Lynn Haston, administration and Jack Carlton, academic affairs

Right: Robert LaLance, then dean of students, poses for a picture for the 1971 Midlander.

VP position

"I'm privileged to have been associated with him both as a boss and friend," Smith said.

John David Hays, assistant vice president for Student Affairs, has worked with LaLance for 18 years and calls him a friend and mentor.

"I could not have advanced to this point in my career without his support, teaching, and encouragement. Bob leaves MTSU a far richer place as a result of his contributions to the university and the positive difference he has made in the individual lives of students over the years. He'll be a tough act to follow."

Frances Rich is the executive secretary for the division of Student Affairs and has worked with LaLance for more than two decades. She says it has been a rewarding time.

"Having worked for him since 1975, I've developed a great respect for him," she says. "He takes a sincere interest in people. He's always extremely pleasant and never give the impression that he's forcing things. He has great expectations and you know that, but he doesn't pressure. Every day that I have come to work has been pleasant and fulfilling. I've never dreaded coming to work," Rich said.

Asked what advice he'd give future university administrators LaLance says, "Know yourself and don't forget your personal integrity. Frankly, if those are in place, you can learn the rest."





New library equipped

By Dustin Schrimpscher

MTSU's \$32 million dollar library which can house 800,000 volumes opened in January as scheduled.

And as the dust settled on the library's construction, students and faculty were anxious to see what the new facility was offering. A quick tour revealed that the new library was designed and built for twenty-first century students.

"I think everyone has been impressed," said Don Craig, Dean of Library Services.

An atrium space, lit by both sunlight and artificial reflective-light, greets visitors to the new library. Futuristic cable lighting illuminates both an elaborate wood-paneled staircase, and second and third floor study balconies.

From the fossil-stone-tile atrium floor to the arch ceiling, four stories of open space allow library patrons to easily locate library resources organized around the atrium on each floor.

"We wanted a library designed so that the students would not need a map to find what they needed," said Craig.

As students enter the atrium in the front of the library, they pass through security columns much like those at Todd

Library. Security columns in the new library detect marked books both leaving and entering the library.

Located in the foyer of the main entrance, a study/vending area provides students a place to have a snack or drink while studying. This area also houses coin operated lockers. Constructed with infrastructure for a video monitoring system, the university hopes to designate this area a 24-hour study room.

On the first floor, a glass wall separates the reference section and the state-of-the-art Electronic Information Center (EIC) from the atrium.

The EIC, constructed with computer flooring (carpet on tile that can be easily removed and replaced in order to reconfigure subfloor-computer-networking), is home to approximately 90 new personal computers. Thirty-six additional computers will be available on each floor in non-computer lab environments.

In addition to new personal computers, the library plans to replace the existing PALS information system with Endeavor Information System next summer.

Along the left of the atrium on the first floor, circulation desks and a Reserve Library desk separate public areas from library staff areas. The east side of the building houses staff areas on all four floors.

Photos by Derrick Wilson

Left: The atrium area of the university's new library allows students to see the arch ceiling four stories high. The open area allows students to see labeled sections of the building, making it easy to find where they need to go in the library without using a map.



Above: The circulation area of the new library is located to the left in the atrium area of the new university library.

Left: This information desk is located in the area Electronic Information Center, which now houses 90 personal computers to access information.

for twenty-first century

Two sets of elevators, the periodical section and copying center fill the back of the building. The copying center contains 17 new copiers, and two copy machines are available for student use on each additional floor.

Gold water fountains near the elevators on each floor appear costly. However, according to Craig, the fountains use a central water cooling tank so, in terms of maintenance, these fountains are less expensive than traditional self contained units.

The Adaptive Technologies Center (ATC), also located on the first floor, provides services for disabled students. Computers in the ATC can scan and read books to blind students or enlarge text for partially blind students.

The new library also provides a family restroom for students with children and disabled students requiring assistance.

The second, third and fourth floors each house book shelves as well as two student reading areas and two group study rooms. Lounge balconies on these floors provide students with additional study areas.

Computer outlets, consisting of power outlets and phone jacks wired to the university computer mainframe, allows students with laptop computers to plug in and work either on-

or off-line from every study area in the new library. The second floor houses User Services, which provides two classrooms to be utilized by University 101 classes or any other research-based classes.

The third floor is home to the Microtext Library where students may research some back issues of journals and magazines, newspapers, government publications/ documents and scientific records.

Besides a heart-racing view of the atrium floor and the quadrangle, the fourth floor houses the Special Collections Library, reserving delicate or precious holdings.

The fourth floor also provides 144 graduate students workstations and 60 faculty research stations. Interested parties must apply for these research facilities on a semester by semester basis.

A security service desk in the atrium serves as a video surveillance monitoring center. To ensure security and safety, video cameras monitor remote areas of the library, including four emergency stairways that provide fire exits on each corner of the building.

Panic buttons are located in the restrooms, the vending area and all service desk to alert Public Safety of emergencies.

Japan Center director dies

By Brian Forrester

Esther Millon Seeman, 76, died in January, leaving a void in the activities and programs in which she was involved on campus.

Seeman was the director of the Japan Center of Tennessee and faculty member in political science department since 1969. She was the recipient of several awards, including the King Hampton Award for Service to Women from MTSU and American Association of University Women Fellowship from University of Minnesota.

As director of the Japan Center of Tennessee, Seeman was in charge of directing the state's efforts to create a more cohesive relationship between Tennessee and Japan. She assisted in the transition of Japanese families into this area and made the adjustment easier.

The Japanese Center of Tennessee was created in 1982. Seeman was the director of the organization since the beginning.

"The idea of a Japan Center of Tennessee was conceived in the early 1980s by then President Ingram and Vice-President Carlton when Nissan decided to locate its first American plant in Tennessee," said Dr. Kiyoshi Kawahito, Director of the U.S. - Japan Economic and Educational Partnership Project. "Working part-time, but very hard, at a tiny office in



the Cope Administration Building, she developed - within the next 10 years - the Japan Center into a reputable window of service and information."

In 1995, the Japan Center lost funding from the state, which it had to that point been operating under.

Since 1995, Seeman and the Japan Center reported internally to the dean of the college of business.

Seeman is survived by her husband Julius and her two sons, Larry and Bradley. The family requested donations be sent to the Vanderbilt University Cancer Center Development Office.

Sociology professor Timothy Rouse dies

Dr. Timothy Patrick Rouse, Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminology, died at home in December after a long battle with cancer. He was surrounded by family and friends.

Rouse was born in Escanaba, Mich. on Aug 2, 1950. Immediate survivors include his wife Velta Straube and son Tarik Brian Richards of Murfreesboro; mother Frances (Lynaugh) Rouse, Escanaba, Mich., and brother, H. Peter Rouse of Loveland, Colo.

His humor, intellect and sense of adventure will also be greatly missed by many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, colleagues, students and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Harry Joseph Rouse in 1989.

Rouse earned a doctorate in sociology from Colorado State University and was an accomplished scholar, teacher and researcher.

He continued his intellectual pursuits until the very end of his life by utilizing his illness and its treatment as a new area of research. Honorary pall bearers include Michael Donnelley, Dr. Ron Aday, Dr. Michael Hallett, Dr. Richard Osborn, Dr. Paul W. O'Brian and Dr. Steve Helmricks.



The family wishes to acknowledge the administration and faculty of MTSU, Dr. John Barton and the staff of Tennessee Oncology and the nurses of Hospice of Murfreesboro who both lightened and brightened his last days.

Final services were held at St. Rose of Murfreesboro. The family asks that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to Timothy Rouse Memorial Fund, c/o Department of

Sociology and Anthropology.



A student makes her way to class on a rainy fall day.

Photos by Derrick Wilson



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Wood and Felder Halls, converted last fall into a dorm for honors students, is the first "living/learning" center on campus. The project is considered a success.

Honors dorm a success

By Jaime Rheinecker and Jamie Evans

The honors living and learning center -which started as an experiment last fall - is here to stay.

Last semester students had the option of residing in Wood or Felder halls as part of an addition to the honors program.

The living/learning experience was intending to include such features as access to the honors program advisor, a classroom and a computer lab - all located within the residence halls.

The purpose of the establishment was give the honors students and opportunity to work closely with a small group of classmates, who are also neighbors, according to Cathy Crooks, associate director of residential education.

"I really didn't know what to expect," said J.P. Montgomery, director of the honors program. "I think that it might have exceeded my goals. It has been very positive. There is a variety of students constantly interacting in a higher learning environment."

The interaction taking place includes several study sessions, groups of friends just hanging out and late night movies in the lobby.

Originally, the honors dorms were to be a place where higher-achieving students could study and better themselves in a quiet environment, but Montgomery said it is not always quiet.

"The [resident assistants] have declared this to be the rowdiest bunch of students they have seen," he said.

Currently, there are a few students in the honors dorm who are living in a room by themselves, but Crooks said that this situation is not isolated to just Wood and Felder halls. She said there are a few spaces open in residence halls all over campus where people living by themselves.

In order for these students to have a room to themselves, they have to "buy out" the rest of the space in their rooms.

While there are a few openings in the honors living semester, Crooks is anticipating a full house next year.

"There will be a waiting list for the honors complex in the fall," she said.

To accommodate the increase in honors students desiring to live in the specified dorms, Cumming Hall will be used to cluster qualifying honors freshmen.

In order to live in one of the honors halls, honors department requirement must maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 as well as enrolling in at least one honors class per semester.

Cummings chosen for freshmen



Photo by Susan McMahan

Cummings Hall has been selected to be MTSU's second "living/learning" experience dorm, following the success of Wood and Felder Hall as a dorm for honors student. Cummings will be used to house the freshman experience. The dorm, which will house both males and females, will feature tutors, classrooms and seminars geared to freshmen.

By Jeremy Money

A new approach to the residence hall setting will be available beginning next semester to anyone with less than 29 credit hours.

"Most schools . . . this size are doing some sort of 'living/learning' program," Cathy Crooks, associate director for residential education said.

Cummings Hall is being renovated for just that purpose. "Living/learning," which refers to a more unified approach to housing and education, began last year at MTSU.

Wood and Felder halls were the first to try the new idea. They were turned into male and female honors dorms last fall.

Residential life is doing a focus group evaluation this weekend. Crooks said until then she will not know any specific strengths or weaknesses in the renovation but so far she has heard mostly positive feedback.

"Research shows that these kinds of programs seem to help with a student's academic and social success," Crooks said. She added that a greater sense of community is gained by placing students with similar interests together.

Crooks said she does not worry about isolating residents from the rest of campus. They will come into contact with students who have different interest and backgrounds through the course of other everyday activities.

Most programs are based on the same model, Crooks said, the core of which is to bring academic services to the students. The freshman dorm will feature live-in tutors on each

floor, classrooms in the building and seminars specifically designed for freshmen.

While researching this idea, Crooks visited Arizona State University, which has a program similar to the one being tried here. Arizona State has a short description of their program on their website.

There is a "living/learning" steering committee "with lots of input" from different constituency groups," including students, faculty and staff, Crooks said. The committee is in the process of expanding the program to other groups of students, mainly by courses of study.

"We're going to develop a strategic plan in terms of future initiatives," She said. The committee is reviewing several of the larger academic departments on campus.

"It's going to depend on what the needs of the university are," Crooks said.

If interest in the program is not high enough to fill the first-year residence hall, it will be filled with freshmen just as it would have been before the changes.

It has not been decided if there will be an effort to keep students who had requested the first-year program together in the same rooms if freshmen who did not request it are assigned to the dorm.

Crooks said Cummings Hall will continue to be used as overflow housing at the beginning of the semesters.

There is a planned increase in housing fees, but Crooks said it is not to cover this change.

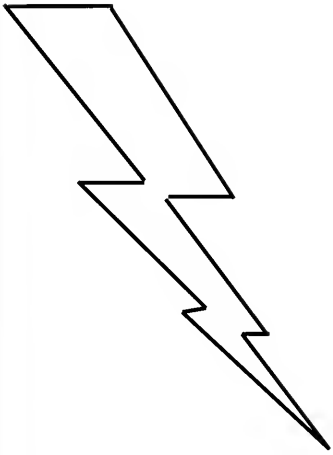
"We're not here to do anything extra," She said. "We're here to enhance what's already there."



Photo by Derrick Wilson

A member of the track team takes off at a meet in the Murphy Center.

MTSU



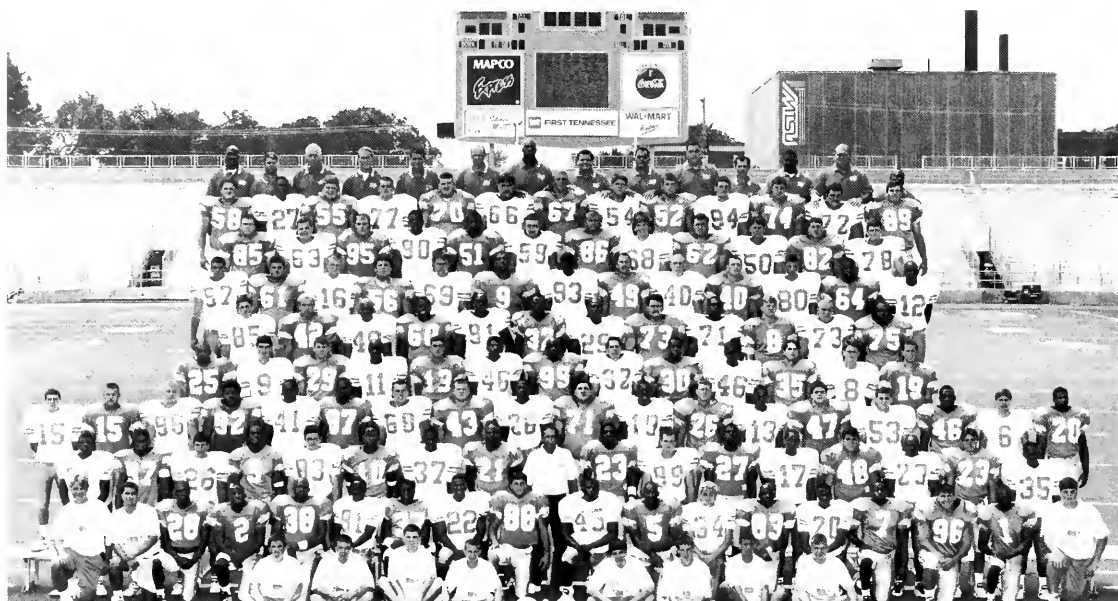
SPORTS



Members of the men's tennis team run to hit the ball during a practice.

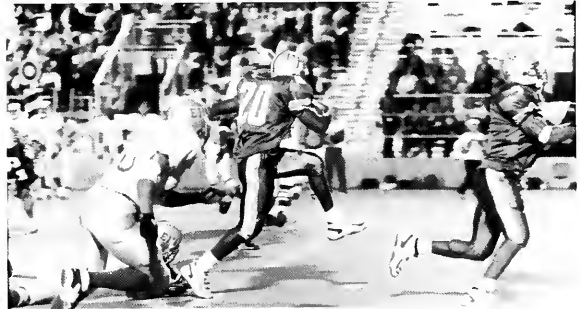
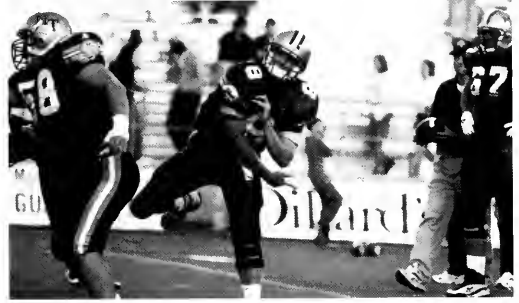
Photo by Derrick Wilson

Blue Raider Football



1998 Season

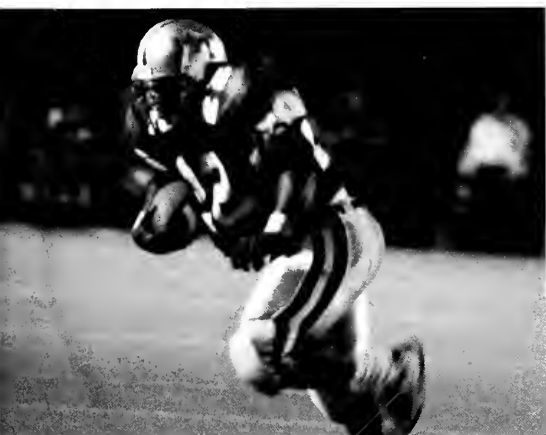
MTSU 28 TSU 27
 MTSU 20 ILL 48
 MTSU 7 JSU 10
 MTSU 24 ECU 28
 MTSU 35 TTU 16
 MTSU 32 MSU 14
 MTSU 21 EIU 35
 MTSU 47 SEMU 19
 MTSU 17 UTM 33
 MTSU 28 UAB 26



Blue Raider Football....

A Season in Pictures 1998







RAIDERS' VICTORY

By R. Colin Fly

A tailback who broke the all-time single game rushing record in his first game, an opposing offense that threw for over 400 yards, and a record attendance to watch the first game in newly-renovated Floyd Stadium - sounds like a fairy tale, right? The Blue Raiders proved Saturday night that the visions of one man to move a team into the elite class of football powers could be a reality, with a 28-27 win over Tennessee State.

The game started with a drop and a bang. As people began to fill in from the tailgate party in the Greenland Drive parking lot, an electric feeling entered the stadium. From the new press box and tower to the additional seating, Floyd Stadium looks and feels like a big time stadium. The excitement inside got underway when three brave souls parachuted into the stadium. Then, the ROTC cannon erupted, followed by a fireworks show. An announced crowd of 27,568 - an all-time

The Tigers received the opening kickoff and on the first play from scrimmage, junior quarterback Leon Murray found senior wide receiver Tyrone Butterfield for a 50-yard pass play, taking the ball deep into Blue Raider territory. However, MTSU sophomore linebacker Kendrick Whitehead forced a fumble two plays later and sophomore linebacker Keith Pauldo rumbled 31 yards to the TSU 44. Despite MTSU red-shirt sophomore tailback Torin Kirtsey carrying the ball six times for 73 yards, the game was scoreless after the first quarter.

Early in the second quarter, the Tigers struck. The Blue Raiders sent an all-out blitz to pressure Murray and a soft screen developed. The Tigers Calvin Davenport caught the screen pass, side-stepped an MTSU defender and bolted for a 52-yard touchdown.

The Raiders had an answer. Kirtsey made two phenomenal

plays and capped a three-play, 48-yard drive with a 1-yard touchdown.

The Tigers, not to be outdone, marched back down the field using several key third down conversions leading to Murray's second touchdown pass of the night.

Middle got the ball back and with 55 seconds left in the half, Judd Moore - who had been named MTSU's starting quarterback earlier in the week - was hit by a backside blitz. He lasted just one more play before leaving with a severe shoulder sprain.

"It looks like we possibly lost Judd with a shoulder injury," said head coach Boots Donnelly. "He took a heck of a shot from a blitz from the backside. That is a shame because he is such a hard worker and he wants to play so badly."

The momentum did not swing away from the Blue Raiders, though, as the first pass by second-string quarterback Jimbo Rozar connected with Sulecio Sanford for a 56-yard touchdown. At the half, the game was tied at 14.

Middle opened the second half



with the ball, but did little and punted on fourth down. The Tigers quickly regained the lead 21-14 on another Murray-to-Butterfield pass for 13 yards.

Kirtsey now had the weight of the team on his shoulders and moved the ball more like a full-back than a halfback, ending the quarter with 149 yards. Rozar was having trouble moving the ball, passing for only 14 yards after his first-play touchdown pass. Donnelly made a change. Red-shirt freshmen quarterback Wes Counts relieved Rozar with under a minute to play in the third quarter.

In the first drive of the fourth quarter, the Raiders were faced with a decision on fourth down and a yard to go on the Tigers' 49. The Tiger cornerback jammed in tight, the safeties cheated up and in one blaze of speed, Kirtsey broke to the outside. A key block sprung Kirtsey 49 yards and gave the Raiders new hope and a tie game to work with a 21-21.

TSU had an answer all night. Murray marched the Tigers back down the field and threw his fourth touchdown of the night, this time to Corey Sullivan for 13 yards. However, the Tigers were penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct and the extra point attempt was now a 35-yard kick instead of a 20. Freshman kicker Gabe DeLong

missed the extra pint, sticking the Tigers at 27.

The Raiders knew this would be their last drive. With the game on the line the Raiders excelled. Counts played poised, handling the pressure like any great quarterback, and Kirtsey provided the knockout punch. A 13-play, 78-yard march - including four completions by Counts and capped by Kirtsey's third touchdown of the night - tied the game at 27. The ensuing extra pint by Keegan Ray put the Raiders up 28-27 with 2:23 to play.

The Tigers would not go quietly. Murray once again led the Tigers down the field. With four seconds left on the clock, DeLong's 41-yard field goal attempt sailed left, giving the Raiders a narrow 28-27 victory.

"We had a chance, particularly there late, when they missed the extra point. It was a big miss that gave us a big lift and some life to take one in." Donnelly said.

When the dust settled, Kirtsey had broken the rushing record set by Vince Hall in 1984. He eclipsed Hall by a single yard, ending the night with 38 attempts for 251 yards and 3 touchdowns.

"From the offensive line to the receivers and the running backs, we all did what coach asked of us," Kirtsey said. "We played together as a team and I think that was the difference in the game. We stayed together and came out with a victory."

"I think he has a chance to be a pretty good back," Donnelly said. "He did not mind tucking inside or taking it outside."

Having to live up to expectations coming out of the University of Georgia, I thought the young man looked good."

Murray for TSU also set a record for most passing yards against the Blue Raiders with 445 yards on 30 of 49 attempts. He also threw for four touchdowns.

The Blue Raiders take to the road to face Division I-A Illinois this Saturday in Champaign.



Lady Raider Volleyball





Blue Raider Basketball





Lady Raider Basketball



1998-1999 Results

Record: 18-10; 14-4 OVC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Result</u>
11/14/98	Erskine College	H	W 88-46
11/19/98	UAB	A	W 73-63
11/22/98	Furman University	H	W 81-75
11/29/98	Western Kentucky	A	L 62-83
12/05/98	Tennessee Tech	H	W 74-63
12/12/98	North Carolina-Asheville	A	W 77-63
12/16/98	Auburn	H	L 53-73
12/28/98	University of Maine	N	L 78-92
12/29/98	Furman University	N	L 66-83
1/2/99	UT Martin	A	L 70-90
1/4/99	Murray State	A	W 72-68
1/7/99	Southeast Missouri	H	W 82-75
1/9/99	Eastern Illinois	H	W 99-63
1/12/99	Tennessee Tech	A	L 63-85
1/14/99	Tennessee State	A	W 89-50
1/16/99	Austin Peay	A	W 70-59
1/21/99	Morehead State	H	W 99-72
1/23/99	Eastern Kentucky	H	W 94-68
1/28/99	UT Martin	H	W 88-71
1/30/99	Murray State	H	W 58-48
2/4/99	Southeast Missouri	A	L 73-76
2/6/99	Eastern Illinois	A	L 77-81
2/11/99	Tennessee State	H	W 81-79
2/13/99	Austin Peay	H	W 69-43
2/18/99	Morehead State	A	W 91-66
2/20/99	Eastern Kentucky	A	W 81-71
2/23/99	Tennessee State	H	L 79-82
3/11/99	University of Memphis	A	L 61-71

Lady Raider Soccer



1998 Results

Record: 10-8; 2-2 OVC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Record</u>
9/1	Belmont	H	L; 0-3	0-1
9/5	*Eastern Illinois	H	L; 1-2	0-2
9/6	Jacksonville State	H	W; 3-2	1-2
9/9	Cumberland, Ky.	A	W; 3/0	2-2
9/13	East Tennessee	H	L; 0-1	2-3
9/15	UT-Chattanooga	A	W; 1-0	3-3
9/19	Wofford	A	L; 0-6	3-4
9/20	*Tennessee Tech	A	L; 2-4	3-5
9/23	Samford	H	W; 3-2	4-5
9/30	*UT Martin	A	W; 1-0 (ot)	5-5
10/2	SE Louisiana	N	W; 2-1	6-5
10/4	Oral Roberts	N	L; 0-4	6-6
10/14	Tennessee Tech	H	W; 4-0	7-6
10/17	Appalachian State	H	L; 1-8	7-7
10/23	Drury	A	L; 0-6	7-8
10/25	Arkansas Little Rock	N	W; 1-0 (ot)	8-8
10/30	*Morehead State	H	W; 6-1	9-8
11/1	UT Martin	H	W; 7-0	10-8

James "Boots" Donnelly

Mark Owens /Sports Information Director

James (Boots) Donnelly announced last night that he will be stepping down as head football coach effective at the end of the 1998 season. Donnelly, who is synonymous with winning football, is in his 22nd year as a head coach and his 20th at MTSU.

"People are probably wondering why I am stepping down at this particular point in the season, but I feel it is the best time for this program," Donnelly said. "With the move to I-A in football next year, it gives the administration plenty of time to find a new coach and have him in place for the upcoming recruiting season."

Donnelly, who enters this week's game with an overall record of 150-92-1 in 22 years, will remain with the athletic department following the conclusion of the football season.

"Coach Donnelly has had a great career at MTSU," athletic director Lee Fowler said. "His success as a football coach at Middle Tennessee is the main reason we're making the jump to I-A next year. He has established a solid program that wins, graduates players and prepares student-athletes to be successful in life. He will be sorely missed as a football coach and teacher."

The eighth-winningest coach in Division I-AA history, Donnelly was the recipient of the "Contributions to Football Award" from the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame in 1989. He was also inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 1997.

"We appreciate the contributions Coach Donnelly has given to MTSU as a player and coach," school president James Walker said. "We look forward to having Boots as a part of the athletic department for many years to come."

An outstanding player at Middle Tennessee in the mid-1960's, Donnelly returned to his alma mater in 1978 to take over the reins of a once proud football tradition that had fallen on hard times. MTSU had gone through six straight losing seasons before Donnelly became head coach.

After winning one game in 1979 and two games in 1980, Donnelly turned things around in 1981 with a 6-5 campaign that included a win over top-ranked Murray State. The Nashville native would go on to record 12 straight winning seasons, capture four Ohio Valley Championships, 10 national top 25 finishes, seven I-AA playoff appearances and earn five different Coach of the Year honors.

Donnelly has also coached 14 NFL players, eight first team all-Americans and 12 OVC Players of the Year during his tenure at MTSU.

Prior to his return to MTSU, Donnelly was head coach at Austin Peay State University in 1977 and 1978, leading Governors to their first ever OVC title in 1977 and being named the league's Coach of the Years. His record at Austin Peay was 14-7.

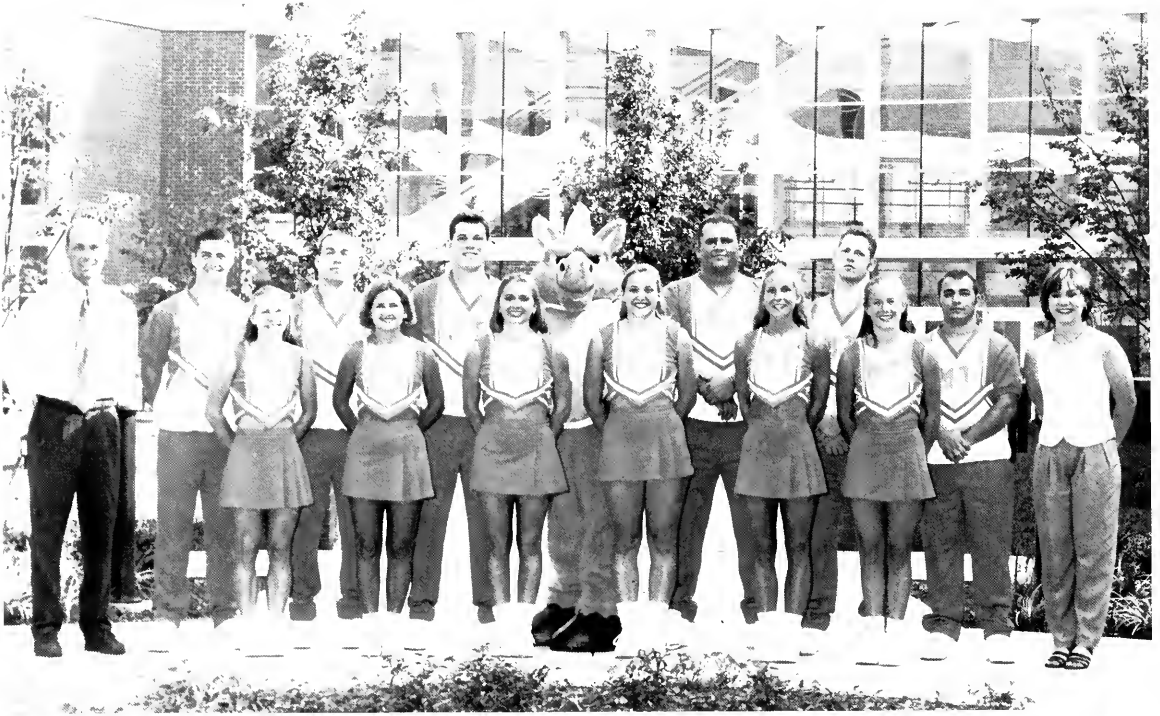
Donnelly's coaching career began at Nashville's Father Ryan High School, where he had been a top-flight, all-around athlete. He was an assistant coach there for eight years before becoming head coach in 1974, leading Ryan to a 21-1 record over two seasons, including a 13-0 mark and the Tennessee Class AAA title in 1974.

Donnelly is married to the former Carole Holzapfel of Nashville. They have three daughters, Bunny, Helen and Lauren, and one grandson.

Leaving of a Legacy



Cheerleaders



MTSU Track



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Members of the MTSU men's track team compete against athletes from other schools in a hurdles event in the Murphy Center.



Rob Jordan



Andreja Ribac



Photo by Derrick Wilson

A member of the track team jumps a hurdle at the Murphy Center.

MTSU Moosemen



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Above: Members of MTSU's Moosemen face off in a scrimmage game.

Right: The Moosemen hold fellow players in the air by the seat of their pants



Golf Team



1998-1999 Results

<u>Event</u>	<u>Rounds</u>	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Top Individual</u>
Precept Peach State Intercollegiate	3	300-293-289=882	T5th	Brett Alexander, 2nd
Hillman Robbins Invitational	3	300-296-303=899	12th	Brett Alexander, 9th
Gary Koch/ Cleveland Intercollegiate	3	298-300-285=883	13th	Brett Alexander, 13th
USA Peninsula Fall Beach Classic	3	291-284-285=860	3rd	Dane Randle, T3rd
Bridges All-American Intercollegiate	3	306-301-312=919	15th	Brett Alexander
				Richard Spangler, T39th
Ron Smith Invitational	3	308-305-319=932	15th	Richard Spangler, T36th
Matlock Invitational	3	302-294-303=899	16th	Brett Alexander,
				Whit Turnbox, T30th
Alabama Spring Invitational	3	293-292-301=866	T12th	Brett Alexander, T7th
Southern Junior/Senior	3	301-291-297=889	1st	Brett Alexander, 1st
Amoco Ultimate-Young Oil	3	296-299-301=896	8th	Brett Alexander, T12th
Ohio Valley Conference Champ.	3	290-298-289=877	3rd	Brett Alexander, 1st

Lady Raider Tennis



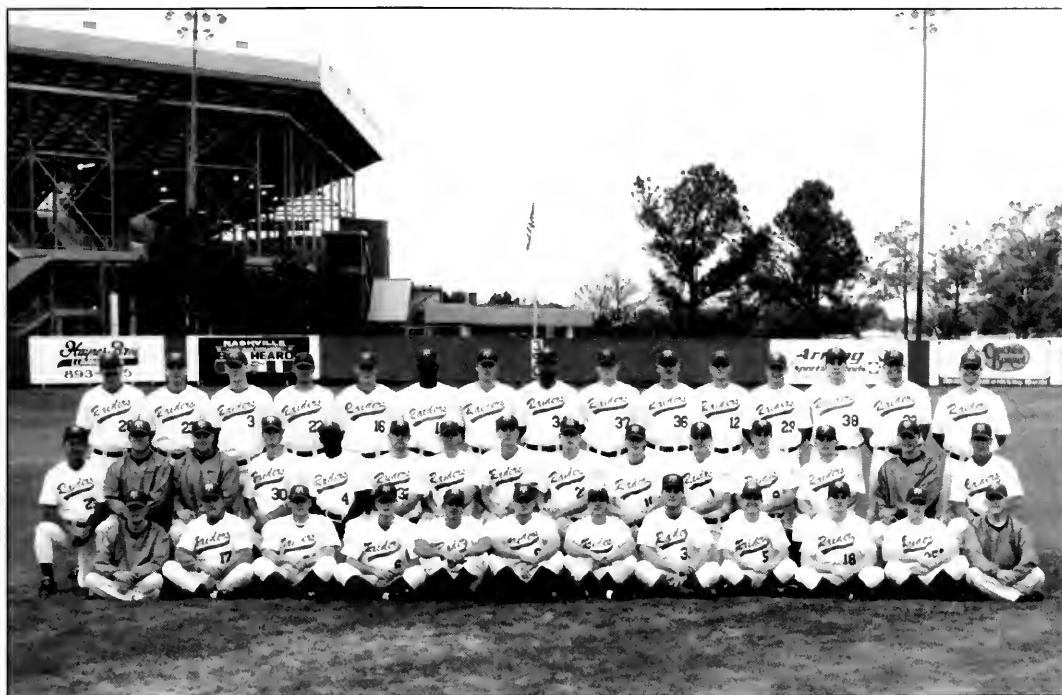
Blue Raider Tennis



Lady Raider Softball



Blue Raider Baseball



1999 OVC Results

<u>Game Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Record</u>
3/20/99	Eastern Illinois	H	L, 7-18	0-1-0
3/21/99	Eastern Illinois	H	L, 1-3	0-2-0
3/21/99	Eastern Illinois	H	W, 2-1	1-2-0
3/27/99	UT Martin	A	W, 15-3	2-2-0
3/27/99	UT Martin	A	W, 13-3	3-2-0
3/28/99	UT Martin	A	L, 2-4	3-3-0
4/10/99	Austin Peay	A	W, 20-3	4-3-0
4/10/99	Austin Peay	A	L, 6-7	4-4-0
4/11/99	Austin Peay	A	W, 15-4	5-4-0
4/17/99	Southeast Missouri	H	L, 2-10	5-5-0
4/17/99	Southeast Missouri	H	L, 0-4	5-6-0
4/18/99	Southeast Missouri	H	W, 9-6	6-6-0
4/24/99	Morehead State	A	W, 3-2	7-6-0
4/24/99	Morehead State	A	L, 3-5	7-7-0
4/25/99	Morehead State	A	L, 4-6	7-8-0
5/01/99	Murray State	H	W, 6-3	8-8-0
5/01/99	Murray State	H	W, 6-3	9-8-0
5/02/99	Murray State	H	W, 10-5	10-8-0
5/08/99	Tennessee Tech	H	W, 13-2	11-8-0
5/08/99	Tennessee Tech	H	W, 6-3	12-8-0
5/09/99	Tennessee Tech	H	W, 10-5	13-8-0
5/15/99	Eastern Kentucky	A	L, 1-6	13-9-0
5/15/99	Eastern Kentucky	A	L, 4-5	13-10-0
5/16/99	Eastern Kentucky	A	W, 13-10	14-10-0
5/20/99	Austin Peay	N	W, 12-9	
5/20/99	Eastern Illinois	N	L, 7-8	
5/21/99	Southeast Missouri	N	W, 6-4	
5/21/99	Eastern Kentucky	N	W, 4-3	
5/22/99	Eastern Illinois	N	L, 3-4	

Former player, coach



Murphy as athletic director: Charles Murphy (shown here in a photo from the 1981 *Midlander*) retired from his position as MTSU's athletic director in June 1981. He had held the position when he took a job as head football coach and athletics director in 1947. He stepped down as head coach in 1969 after 22 seasons and lent his name to Murphy Athletic Center when it opened in 1972.

Charles Murphy dies

Former player, coach and athletic director Charles M. "Bubber" Murphy passed away after an extended illness.

Murphy earned a letter in football, basketball, baseball and tennis as a MTSU athlete in the mid 1930's. He earned 69 points in a single game as tailback in the 1936-37 season.

He led the 1936 basketball team with 106 points. He was MTSU's first Little All-American representative.

As a professional athlete, he was in the 1939 lineup of Jersey City International League team, an AAA baseball club of the New York Giants.

After a stint in the Navy, Murphy returned to his alma mater. He took over as head coach and athletic director in 1947.

He dropped his title as head football coach in 1969 and remained athletic director until his retirement in June 1981.

MTSU attended four bowl games during Murphy's coaching tenure — 1956 and 1961 teams played in the Tangerine Bowl and the 1964 team became the first champion of the Grantland Rice Bowl for the NCAA midwest College Division Football Championship.

He was named Ohio Valley Conference Coach of the Year in 1965 by fellow OVC coaches. He also was the finalist for national Coach of the Year.

During Murphy's OVC seasons, his record was 73-26-2.

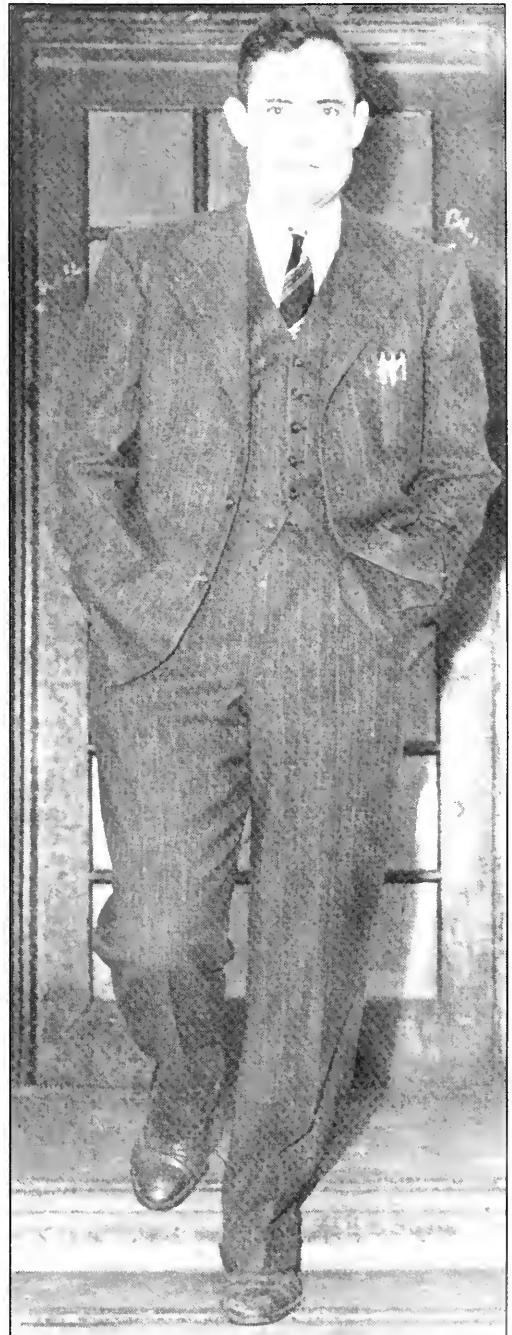
During his 22 seasons as coach, he posted an overall record of 155-63-8.

In 1972, Murphy's name was given to be \$6.5 million Murphy Center. He was named to the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame and the MTSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1976.

Visitation for Murphy was held at Woodfin Funeral Chapel, 915 N. Tennessee Blvd. His funeral was held at St. Mark's United Methodist Church.



Murphy as player: Charles Murphy (shown here in a photo from the 1935 *Midlander*) was No. 15 on the freshman basketball team. He is identified in this picture as "Bubber Murphy." His picture can also be found in the yearbook as a member of the freshman football team and as the freshman class president.



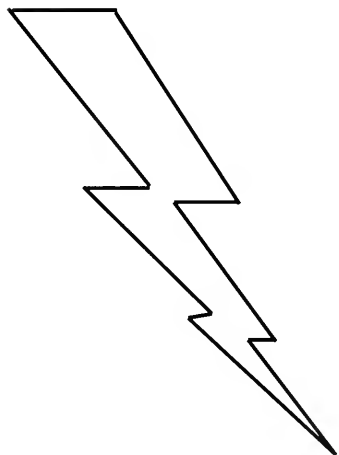
Murphy as coach: Charles Murphy (shown here in a photo from the 1948 *Midlander*) took over as head coach in 1947, a position he held for 22 seasons. He posted an overall record as head coach of 155-63-8

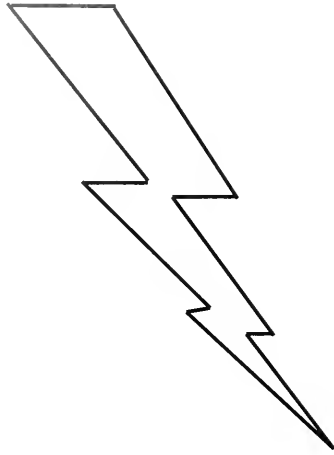


Photo by Derrick Wilson

Leslia Miller poses for the first time as the winner of the Miss Black and Gold pageant, an annual event sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

GREEKS AND





ORGANIZATIONS



File photo

Members of Greek organizations show their school spirit – and their flags – at a home football game.

Alpha Omicron Pi

Alpha Omicron Pi

Founded: 1897

Colors: Cardinal and White

Name of Chapter: Rho Omicron

Philanthropy: Arthritis Research



The power of friendship.

AOΠ



Alpha Delta Pi

ALPHA DELTA PI

Founded: 1851

Colors: Azure blue and white

Name of Chapter: Epsilon Tau

Total number of members: 112

National Philanthropy: The Ronald McDonald House

President: Kristie Burton

Executive VP: Erika Ashley

Membership VP: Heather Witcher

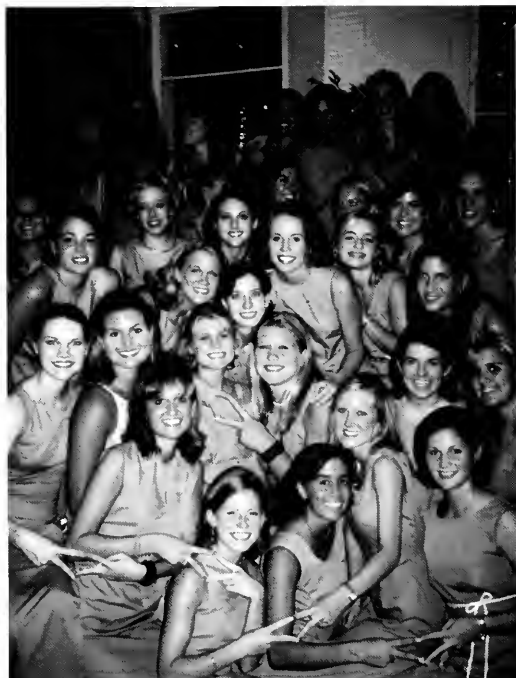
Treasurer: Melanie Moore

VP Recruitment: Emily Beaty

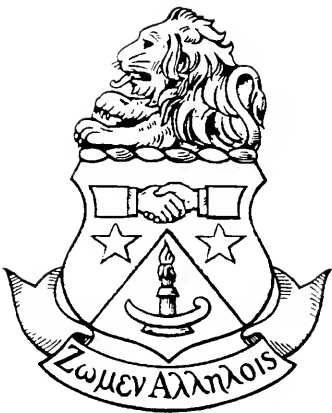
Panellenic Delegate: Angie Boyd

Standards: Ashley Loflin

Social: Staci Jacocks



"We live for each other" ΑΔΠ



Chi Omega

"Diversity"



Chi Omega

Founded: 1895

Colors: Cardinal and Straw

Community Work: Mr. MTSU, American Cancer Society, and Ugly Duckling Ball

Total Number of Members: 104

Name of Chapter: Zeta Theta

XΩ

Delta Zeta



Delta Zeta

Founded: 1902/1969

Colors: Old Rose and Green

National Philanthropy: Speech and Hearing

Name of Chapter: Iota Iota



Kappa Delta

Kappa Delta

Founded: October 23,1897

Colors: Olive green and pearl white

National Philanthropy: Child Abuse

Number of Members: 90

Name of Chapter: Delta Pi

President: Angela Risto

Pledge Education: Jenny Doerflinger

Membership: Mandy Coatney

Public Relations:Melissa Brink

Standards: Courtney Doyle

Secretary: Dana Smith

Treasurer: Laurel Petty

Assistant Treasurer: Beth Scarbrough

Panhellenic Rep: Melanie Kiefer



"Honorable, Beautiful, and High"

KΔ



Zeta Tau Alpha

Zeta Tau Alpha

Founded: 1898

Colors: Turquoise blue and steel gray

Community work: Race for the cure,

Adopt a Highway, Mentoring

Number of Members: 45

Name of Chapter: Iota Chi

President: Amber Carpenter

1st VP: Megan de Jong

2nd VP: Marcie Tesar

Secretary: Christina Keistler

Treasurer: Catrynia Nelson

Historian: Lynn Green

Panhellenic Delegate: Mary McDonald

Membership Chair: Kelly Nadjirokic

Ritual Chair: Lana Smith



"Friends for life"

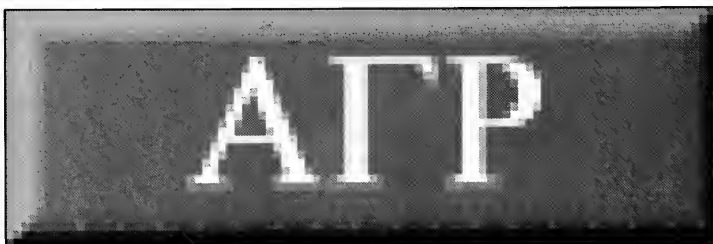
ZTA



Alpha Gamma Rho



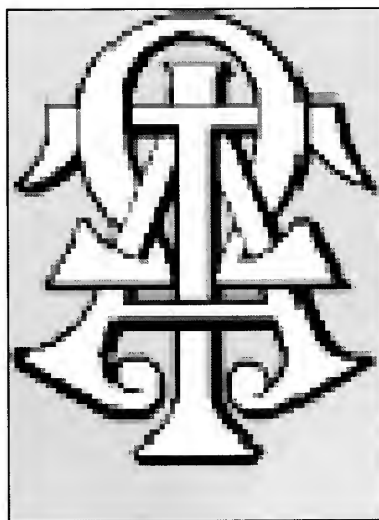
Chapter: Beta Theta
Number of Members: 40
Social Activities: Mixers,
Homecoming, Intramurals
and Formals



Alpha Tau Omega



Chapter: Eta Nu
Founded: 1865
Colors: Azure
and Gold



Beta Theta Pi



Founded: 1839
Colors: Pink and Blue
Number of members: 50



Kappa Alpha



Founded: 1865
Chapter: Delta Lambda

Kappa Sigma



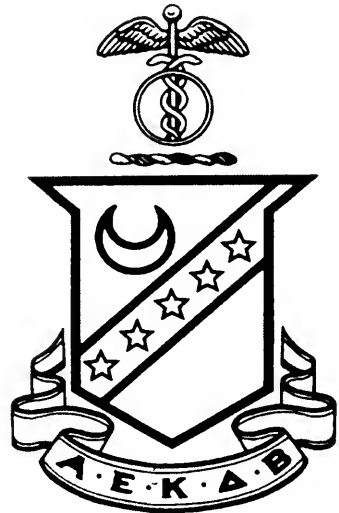
KΣ

Chapter: Kappa Iota

Founded: 1869

Number of members: 100

Social Activities: Homecoming,
Mixers, Formals, All Sing and
Intramurals



Pi Kappa Alpha



ΠΚΑ

Chapter: Eta Zeta

Founded: 1868

Colors: Garnet and Gold

Number of members: 40

Social Activities: Mixers,
Homecoming, Formals
and Intramurals

Community Service: Big
Brothers of America,
Multiple Sclerosis, ADD

Foundation and Pike Fights

Sigma Alpha Epsilon



Chapter: Tennessee Beta

Founded: 1969

Colors: Purple and Gold

Number of members: 70

Social Activities: Homecoming, Mixers, Formals, Miss MTSU pageant and Paddy Murphy party

Community Service: Community car wash for American Heart Association, Easter Egg Hunt for underprivileged Murfreesboro children

ΣΑΕ

Sigma Chi



ΣΧ

Chapter: Eta Gamma

Founded: 1909

Colors: Blue and Old Gold

Number of members: 60

Social Activities: Homecoming,
Mixers, Formals, Derby Days,
All Sing and Intramurals

Sigma Nu



Chapter: Theta Iota
Founded: 1869
Number of members: 50
Social Activities: Homecoming,
Mixers, Formals, Intramurals
and All Sing



Sigma Phi Epsilon



ΣΦΕ

Chapter: Tennessee Theta

Founded: 1901

Colors: Purple and Gold

Number of members: 30

Social Activities: Mixers,
Formals, Intramurals,
SGA, Homecoming
and All Sing

Tau Kappa Epsilon



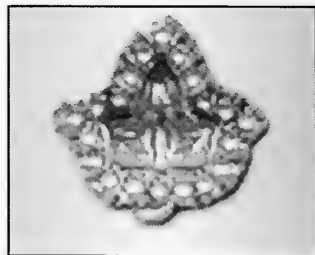
Chapter: Sigma Omicron
Founded: 1990
Number of members: 19
Social Activities: Red
Carnation Ball

Panhellenic Council



National Pan-Sororities

Alpha Kappa Alpha
Eta Psi Chapter



Delta Sigma Theta
Iota Tau Chapter

Sigma Gamma Rho
Lambda Chi Chapter



Zeta Phi Beta

Hellenic Council

Fraternities



Alpha Phi Alpha
Kappa Xi Chapter

Kappa Alpha Psi



Omega Psi Phi
Mu Zeta Chapter

Phi Beta Sigma
Iota Mu Chapter



Organizations

*Ad
Club*



*Block
and
Bridle*

*Delta
Tau
Alpha*





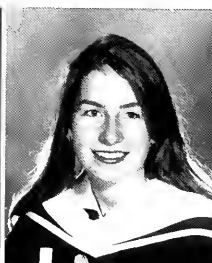
SHAPE

Society of Professional Journalists

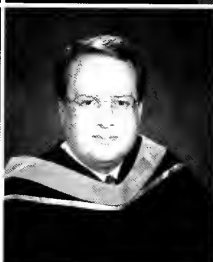
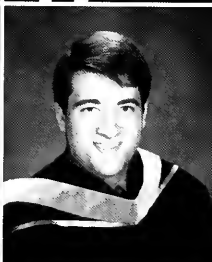


Ultimate Frisbee Club

Jennifer Adkisson
Spring Hill, TN
Kelly Anderson
Thompson Station, TN
Wilmeka Bachman
Johnson City, TN
Wendy Bacon
Murfreesboro, TN



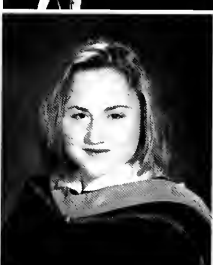
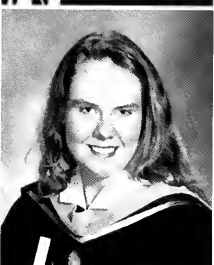
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Murfreesboro, TN
Jeremy Baker
Fayetteville, TN
David Barber
Franklin, TN
Amy Beck
Nashville, TN



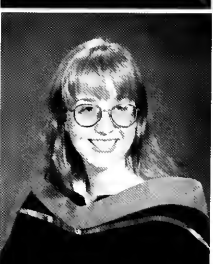
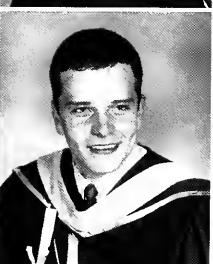
Mary Belcher
Hermitage, TN
Regina Belt
Hendersonville, TN
Jamie Berry
Portland, TN
Kelli Bettis
Dandridge, TN



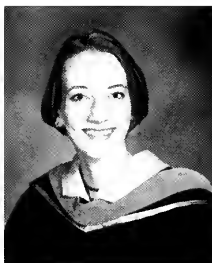
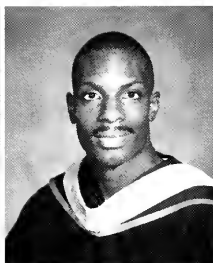
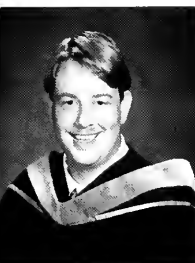
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Angela Bond
Jackson, TN
Tonia Bond
Henning, TN
Robbie Bottoms
Crossville, TN



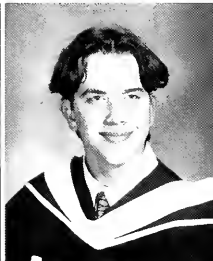
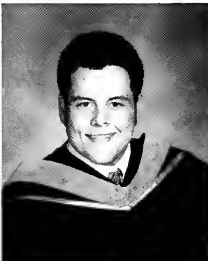
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Hohenwald, TN
Lea Ann Bowman
Nunnally, TN
Shiva Bozarth
Paris, TN
Gina Brooks
Shelbyville, TN



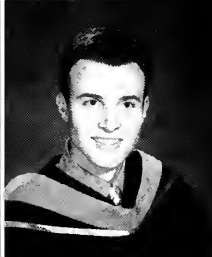
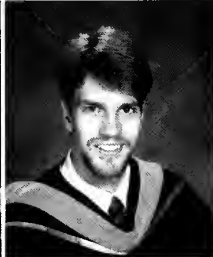
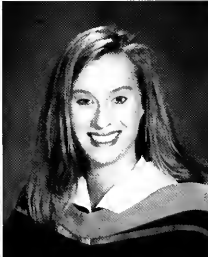
Seniors



Paul Brown
Smyrna, TN
Quientella Brown
Antioch, TN
Victor Brown
Lexington, TN
Janeen Burlison
Murfreesboro, TN

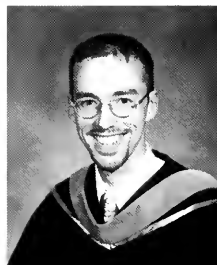
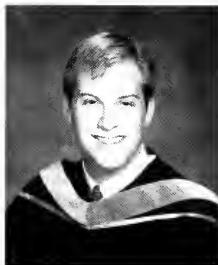
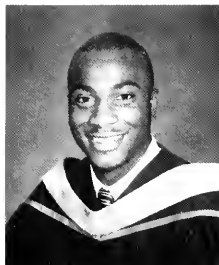


Kimberly Burns
Bowling Green, KY
Kent Bush
Manchester, TN
Barry Carter
Murfreesboro, TN
Mary Beth Carter
Lebanon, TN

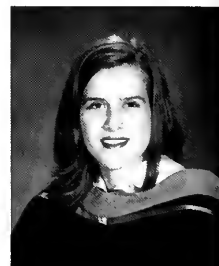
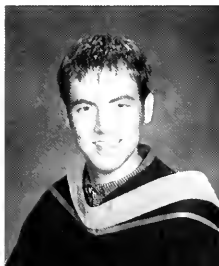


Melissa Carter
Lebanon, TN
Amber Cecil
Hixson, TN
Joseph Chandler
Murfreesboro, TN
Brandon Chowning
Nashville, TN

Carlos Clardy
 Germantown, TN
Jason Cole
 Nashville, TN
Edward Collins
 McMinnville, TN
Jackie Collins
 Murfreesboro, TN



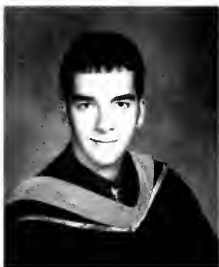
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Hila Crabtree
 Estill Springs, TN
Angela Crutchfield
 Murfreesboro, Tn
Lori Cushenberry
 Old Hickory, TN



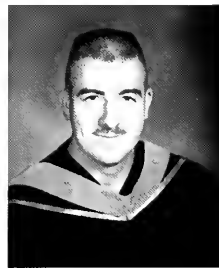
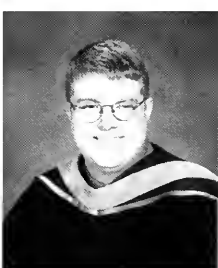
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Karlton Davidson
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Katherine Davis
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Christine Dieters
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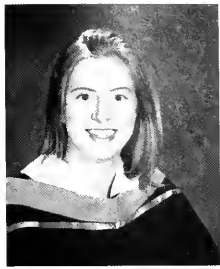
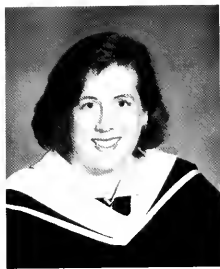


Bryan Dihigo
 Murfreesboro, TN
Joseph Dowell
 Murfreesboro, TN
Maria Duarte
 Old Hickory, TN
Rebecca DuBose
 Madison, TN



Andrew Eakes
 Old Hickory, TN
Mary Alice Eckel
 Gordonsville, TN
James Elliott
 Murfreesboro, TN

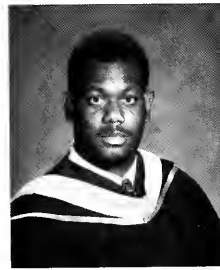




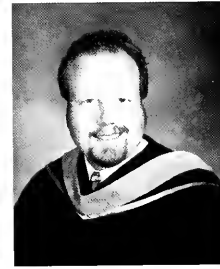
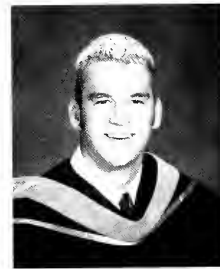
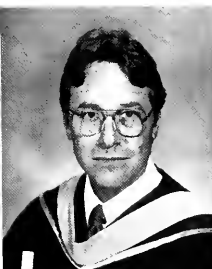
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Jennifer Farlow
Rockvale, TN



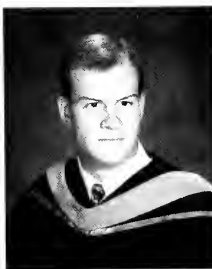
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Vernanrd Fisher
Murfreesboro, TN
Julie Flanigan
Columbia, TN



John Paul Flick
Murfreesboro, tn
Kenyan Flowqers
Murfreesboro, TN
Melissa Fore
Spring Hill, TN
Eddie Gadsey
Brentwood, TN



Kevin Gains
Nashville, TN
Kevin Glover
Chestnut, TN
Steve Goins
Hermitage, TN
Mary Good
Murfreesboro, TN



Stephen Graves
Mt. Juliet, TN
Patricia Gray
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Aaron Grayum
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April Haggard
Lavergne, TN

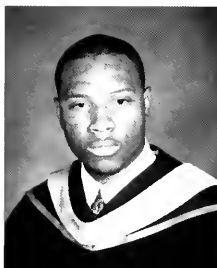
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Renee Hamel
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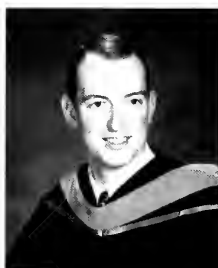
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Lance Hasty
Murfreesboro, TN
Gracie Hayes
Liberty, TN
Linda Hayes
Murfreesboro, TN



Tracy Haynes
Murfreesboro, TN
Roderick Head
Okolona, MS
Angela Hicks
Murfreesboro, TN
Sherry Higginbotham
Rockvale, TN



Beverly Hill
Smyrna, TN
Hilary Hinkle
Murfreesboro, TN
Kevin Hinkle
Murfreesboro, TN
Christie Holman
Murfreesboro, TN



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Tara Humphreys
Kingsport, TN
Yvette Hunt
Huntland, TN
Belma Ismailovich
Antioch, TN

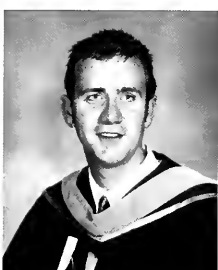




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Calita James
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Jennifer Johnston
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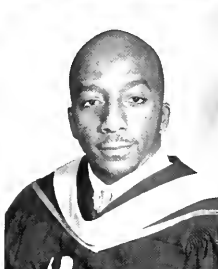
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Calvin Jordan
Whites Creek, TN
Jatolia Keeton-McDowell
Knoxville, TN



Julie Kielbasa Farris
Antioch, TN
James King IV
Franklin, TN
Noelle Kirkham-Hadley
Madison, TN
Donna Knights
Columbia, TN



Gaines Lansford
Crossville, TN
Joann Lawson
Powell, TN
Barbie Lawwell
Murfreesboro, TN
Rachel Layburn
Murfreesboro, TN



Jongcheon Lee
Hermitage, TN
Paula Lee
Murfreesboro, TN
Nicole Lester
Murfreesboro, TN
Ernest Lewis Jr.
Mt. Pleasant, TN

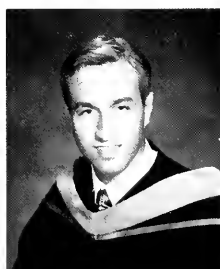
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Tara Little
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Sharon Logan
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Latrenda Love
 Madison, TN



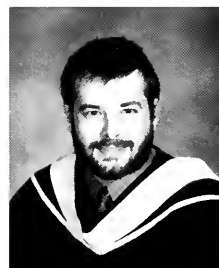
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Keri Loyd
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Bonnie Lunn
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Javel Mack
 Murfreesboro, TN



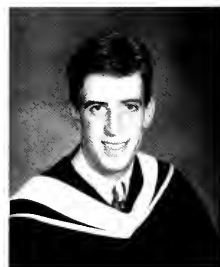
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Christopher Marquitz
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Danielle Martin
 Smithville, TN
Jennifer Martin
 Smyrna, TN

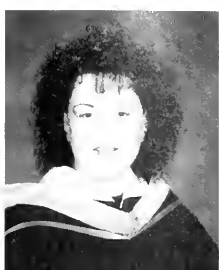


Victoria Matthews
 Madison, TN
Timothy Maxwell
 Knoxville, TN
Donald May
 Nashville, TN
Tyson McClanahan
 Nashville, TN



Paula McCullen
 Columbia, TN
Kuwana McKonald
 Hartsville, TN
Sonja McQuiston
 Murfreesboro, TN
Jeremy Money
 Tullahoma, TN





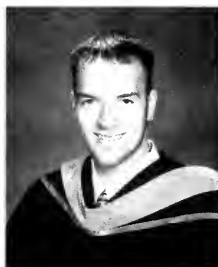
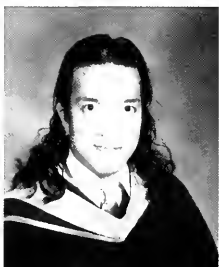
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Amie Mullican
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Jamie Mundy
Speedwell, TN
Robert Myers
Fayetteville, TN



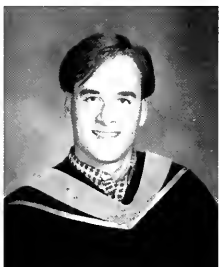
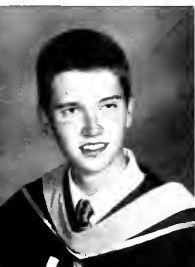
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Tabetha Newport-Sullens
McMinnville, TN
Jennifer Newsome
Murfreesboro, TN
Melanie Nichols
Bradyville, TN



Tina Nichols
Woodbury, TN
Margaret Nickell
Nashville, TN
Amanda Nicklow
Murfreesboro, TN
Beverly Nielsen
Christiana, TN

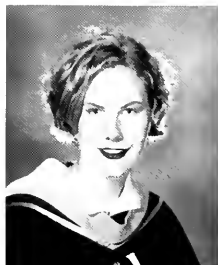


Elizabeth Nielsen
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Joseph Noid
Murfreesboro, TN
Tony Paduano Jr.
Antioch, TN
Christopher Page
Antioch, TN



Brian Parker
Bradyville, TN
Mindy Parker
Nashville, TN
Benjamin Parks
Antioch, TN
Melissa Pauly
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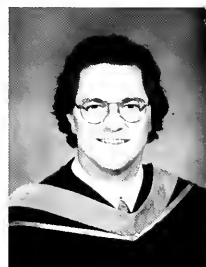
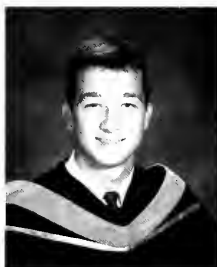
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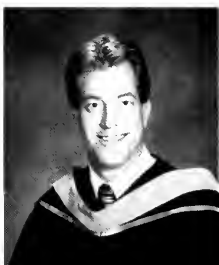
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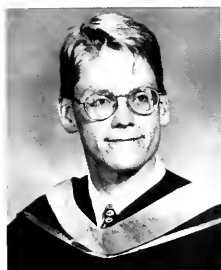


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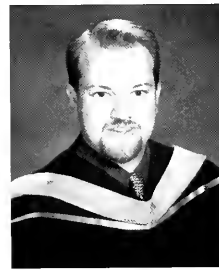




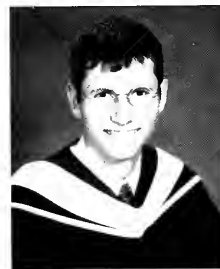
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Cynthia Sanders
Dickson, TN
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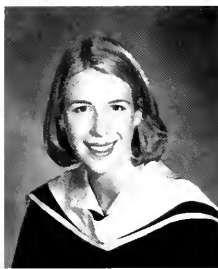


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Amanda Sherrill
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Jenny Shipes
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Angela Skala
Largo, FL

Sherryl Smart
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Brandy Smith
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Debra Smith
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Kevin Smith
 Jackson, TN



Margaret Smith
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Stacy Smith
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Natalie Sneed
 Millington, TN
Melissa Sobel
 Hermitage, TN



Camie Sperry
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Martha Stroud
 Goodlettsville, TN
Dorothy Sutton
 Nashville, TN



Valarie Sweatt
 Antioch, TN
Angela Tanner
 Smyrna, TN
David Travers
 Nashville, TN
Melissa Tucker
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Melanie Tyler
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Adam Valle
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Penelope Vaughter
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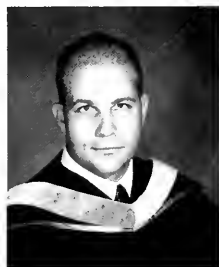
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Tammy Warren
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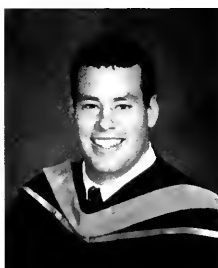
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Vida Whipple
 Kingsport, TN



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Rhonda Whitworth
 Shelbyville, TN
Jennifer Wilee
 Antioch, TN
Gina Williams
 Franklin, TN



Shannon Williams
 Murfreesboro, TN
April Wilson
 Lewisburg, TN
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Joseph Wise
 Mt. Juliet, TN



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Scott Wortman
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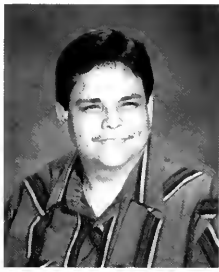
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 Heather Brown, JR



Wesley Brown, FR
 Shaniqua Burse, FR
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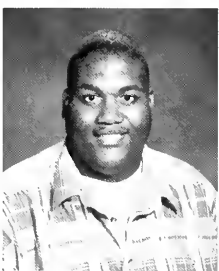
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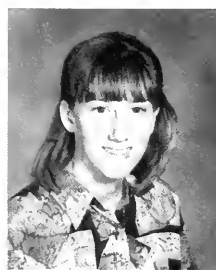


Demetria Elosiebo, FR
 Adam Gamble, SO
 Paula George, JR
 Vickie Gibson, SO



Julius Graham, FR
 Erin Grindstaff, FR
 William Hare, FR
 Tammy Highman, JR





Jennifer Holmes, FR

Wil Holt, JR

Amanda Irvin, JR

Jacquelyn Jones, FR

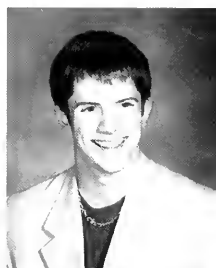
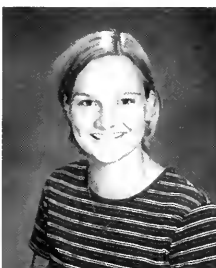


Kathrynne Kupfer, JR

Nathan Lux, FR

Justin Martin, FR

John Matthew, FR



Chanelle Matthews, FR

Melissa Moreno, FR

Erica Murphy, JR

Michael O'Neal, JR



Keith Odom, FR

Deborah Owen, FR

Samantha Pabon-
Feliciano, SO

Tommy Phanyoraj, SO



Stephanie Pope, JR

LaShanda Porter, JR

Michael Prevost, JR

Edward Rawls, FR

Meredith Schlageter, FR



Sherry Scott, SO



Jessica Shamblin, JR

Bryan Simpson, JR

Katherine Skopik, FR



Molly Smith, SO



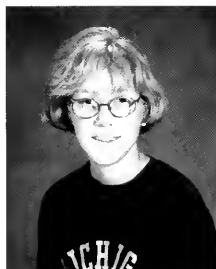
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Rochelle Snelling, JR

Melissa Sowder, FR



Jennifer Steinfeld, FR



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Nicole Taylor, FR

Amanda Warburton, FR



Anika Waters, FR



Carmen Watson, FR



Latrice Williams, SO

Greyson Wiser, JR

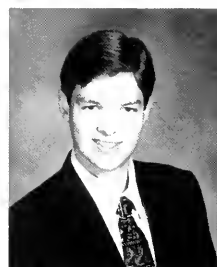


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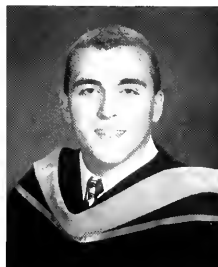
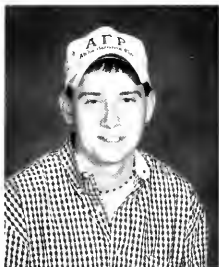


Kevin Wright, JR





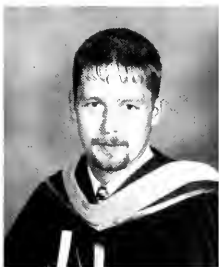
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 Jacqueline Banniza, NS
 Jean Brake, NS
 Jesse Cardin, NS



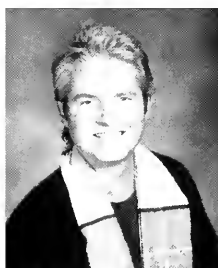
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 Jonathan Kimbro, NS
 Leann King, NS



Angela Knight, NS
 Geoffrey Latham, NS
 Kristine Lilja-King, NS
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 Matthew Nipper, NS
 Rodrikus Springfield, NS
 Laurel Stone, NS



Natasha Wright, NS
 Mark Smith, GR
 Fortune Wolughboms, GR

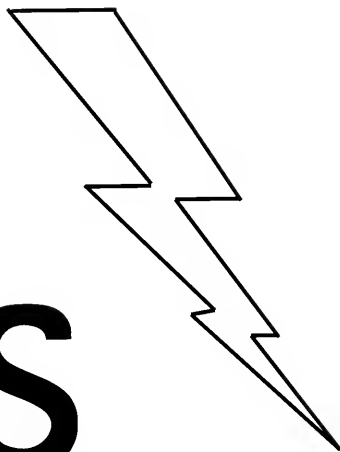


File photo

A student practices his skateboarding technique on the steps of the KUC.

FEATURE

STORIES



File photo

A student tries to maintain his balance on a wooden wheel in front of KUC.

All Aboard!

By Ruth Peltier

Before it was just a popular Chattanooga attraction; soon, it could be your ride to class.

Commuter rail service linking Murfreesboro to Nashville may offer an innovative answer to the parking problems on the MTSU campus, according to Deborah Roberts, head of MTSU's Transportation Department.

The recently conducted Middle Tennessee Poll found that more than half of mid-state residents would prefer to build a commuter rail system than more roads. This figure is slightly higher than the results of the same poll conducted in fall 1998.

Roberts said her department works closely with the Regional Transit Authority, citing MTSU's participation in the Relax and Ride program, which provides bus service into Nashville.



Commuter rail system a possibility to solve parking problems for out-of-town students

Roberts is certain her department will explore the possibility of running a shuttle bus to provide an easy way for students to connect with the trains when rail transportation is available. Roberts said that her office is always open to suggestions about ways to improve the transportation and parking situation on campus.

Robert Babbitt, executive director of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, said a commuter rail system is an essential factor in Nashville's plans for transportation in the second millennium.

Babbitt reported the trains would use existing rail lines to carry passengers into Nashville from five cities: Murfreesboro, Lebanon, Gallatin, Bellevue and Franklin. The system, when finished, would make it possible to commute to MTSU from almost anywhere in Middle Tennessee.

According to Babbitt, \$1.2 million in federal mass transit funds has been provided to the project for engineering and environmental studies, and \$8 million has been allocated for construction and restoration of stations. Babbitt believes \$5 million in additional funds will become available within the next six months.

He indicated these funds would be used for improvement of gate crossings, refurbishing of railroad cars and the construction of a station that would allow the incoming Lebanon trains to connect with the steamboats and river taxis already operating on the river.

Babbitt said the Murfreesboro corridor would begin at the old railroad depot in Murfreesboro, then stop at the new park-

and-ride lot on Murfreesboro road near the Interstate 840 interchange. From there, it would travel to stations in Smyrna, La Vergne and Hickory Hollow. Then, after stopping at Briley Parkway, it would finish up at the Clement Landport on Broadway next to the old Union Station.

MTSU reaction to the proposed train service has been generally favorable. Many of the students who commute daily from out of town indicated they would gladly ride a train to the campus if one were available.

Other students indicated they would find rail service useful for shopping at Hickory Hollow Mall or for trips to the Nashville Arena, Nashville's new stadium and other attractions in Nashville. Some said they would use it for weekend trips home.

However, not everyone wants to ride the train. A few students expressed a dislike for mass transit in general, but some students had more specific reasons for not wanting to ride.

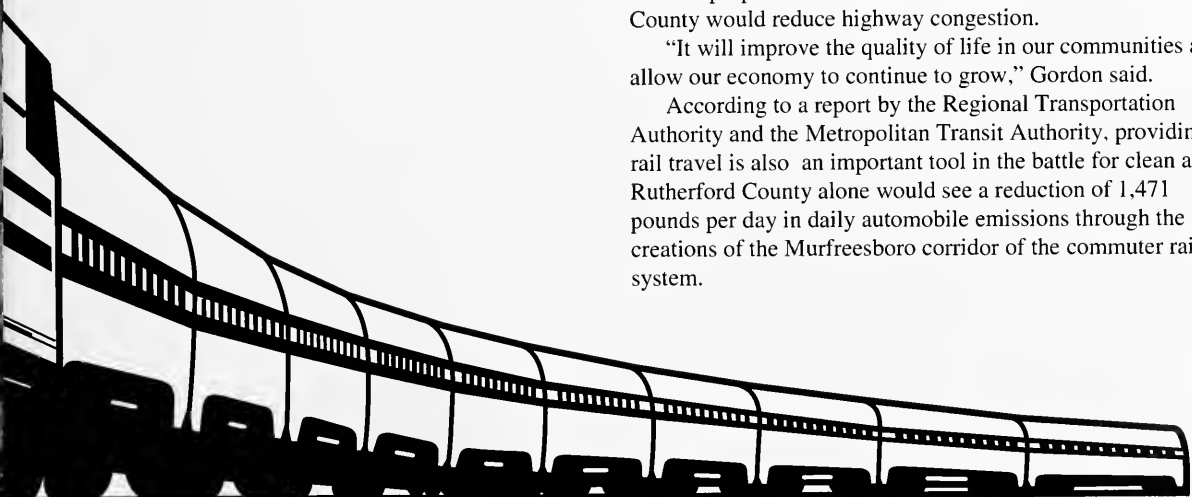
"I just got a new car," said freshman Jessica Morton.

Congressman Bart Gordon (D-Murfreesboro) said the funds for the commuter rail system were being provided through the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. Gordon was instrumental in the passage of this legislation, which provides funds for all sorts of transportation systems from highways to bike and hiking trails. Under this program, cities all across America are establishing commuter rail programs.

Testifying before the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Commuter Rail Projects, Gordon said the proposed commuter rail corridor in Rutherford County would reduce highway congestion.

"It will improve the quality of life in our communities and allow our economy to continue to grow," Gordon said.

According to a report by the Regional Transportation Authority and the Metropolitan Transit Authority, providing rail travel is also an important tool in the battle for clean air. Rutherford County alone would see a reduction of 1,471 pounds per day in daily automobile emissions through the creations of the Murfreesboro corridor of the commuter rail system.



Students Share

Powerful Poetry



By Shawn Whitsell

The open mic "Hour of Power" offered students the chance to be humored and enlightened by several great poets on campus, as well as raise money for a good cause.

The event is sponsored annually by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. to promote unity, knowledge, power, fun and the night's theme, "kuumba," which means creativity.

For nearly two hours, poets, singers, and rappers blessed the mic with creative and powerful words to express personal epics to humor, educate, inspire, enlighten and motivate the audience. Topics ranged from sadness and death to love and relationships to God and religion and then some.

After listening to some of the other poets, I was inspired to share my world of poetry. I recited two original poems titled, "Change the Times," where I touched on a variety of social issues like drugs, God, negligent fathers, greed and poverty. My second poem, "Blessed," was a testimonial of how The Creator has blessed me with peace, love and happiness. It also

explained that though life is not always a bed of roses, I am thankful to God for not moving mountains but giving me the strength to climb them.

One of the more memorable poems was one by John Moore. In this humorous poem, Moore described the woman of his dreams both intelligent and "ghetto fabulous." He told us how he fantasized about her and the effect she had on him. But when he finally got up enough nerve to approach her, all he could say was: "Whatcho Name Is?" The crowd seemed to really enjoy Moore's poem. It broke the mold of the serious poems that seemed to be the norm.

Joseph Watts, a well-known poet on campus, shared his poetry with us, prefacing it by letting us know how much it means to him.

"It's my life," he said.

Watts recited three poems entitled: "Long Ride Home," "The Unknown" and "The Indescribable Force." Though all these poems gave the audience something to think about, it was the sad "Long Ride Home" that deeply touched us. This poem tells of a family coming home from church. The mother

Photo by Derrick Wilson
Members of the Hillside Click perform their poetry during the Alpha Phi Alpha open mic Hour of Power.



dies in the car and the father and sister realize what happens. The young boy has a feeling that something is wrong, but he doesn't realize what has happened until they get home.

Watts said he plans to publish a book of poems.

Another poet who left a lasting impression on the audience was Versatile (Richard Hunter). Versatile is sort of a celebrity in poetry on this campus. As soon as the word of a poetry event gets out, everyone already knows he will be there, and he always is.

Versatile uses his gift of articulation to inform his audience about what's really going on. He has a great ability to grab his audience by speaking of campus-related issues that hit close to home.

His poem "Blue Raider Hater," told the stories of all the "playa hatin'" going on at MTSU. For those of you don't know what "playa hatin'" is, take the "playa hatin'" test.

Guys, if you see another guy with lots of girls and you get jealous and start to tarnish his image just because he has something you want, then you are a "hater." Girls, if you see a girl who dresses better than you and you get jealous and start

spreading rumors about her, then you, sweetheart, are a "hater."

Versatile has my respect for speaking his mind for the name of art and progress.

Besides poetry, there were also several singers who graced us the their beautiful voices and the local Wu Tang-like rap group The Hillside Click gave us a huge dose of hip hop. They motivated the crowd with their catchy tune "What you Represent?" The crew would chant "What you represent? Hillside Hillside!" between verses. Although the large group barely had enough room on the stage, one group member informed me that the Hillside Click's rooster of hip hoppers was much bigger.

"This isn't even half of us," he said.

The night was full of touching poetry that seemed to leave its mark on all of us. I believe we all gained a blessing of a little more power.

Afterwards, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority held "An Alpha Affair," a party to benefit the United Negro College Fund.

Preserving the past

Stones River National Battlefield addition proposition has both opposition and support

By Vickie Gibson

Expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield, as proposed in the final general management plan just released by the National Park Services, would preserve much more of the actual site of the historic Civil War battle.

The plan has many supporters, both locally and nationally, among history and Civil War buffs. Both Jim Huhta, director of MTSU's Center for Historic Preservation, and Jim Williams, assistant history professor at MTSU, wrote letters in support of the expansion plan in 1997 when the plan was first proposed.

"As a historian, I believed that this alternative will best protect the remaining unspoiled area of the original battlefield," Williams wrote. "It also presents a stunningly different interpretive plan that will radically change the visitor experience and the NPS's success in conveying the events, the meaning, and the significance of the Battle of Stones River."

Williams also stated that while the expansion would protect battlefield land from development, it would also make the park a more useful resource for those who teach American history and protect the natural resources such as the cedar glade habitat and endangered and threatened species that live on and near the battlefield. He also offered support for the plan to link the park with the Stones River Greenway.

Huhta stated his support for the expansion and criticized earlier studies which reduced the priority for the battlefield and downplayed the threat of surrounding development's encroachment.

While Huhta criticized the "less effective and more bureaucratic" manner by which the Park Service handles land acquisitions, he noted the need to preserve the historic land. He cited "... the availability, in an intact condition, the lands

from Day 2 of the Battle of Stones River" as one reason for speeding up the process of expanding the park's boundaries.

Stones River National Battlefield Superintendent Mary Ann Peckham said the purpose of seeking an expansion of the boundaries now is to protect the undeveloped portion of the battlefield and identify the land where the park hopes to eventually occupy.

"We're not in a hurry to purchase the land," she said. "We're just trying to save the resources before they are no longer there."

Peckham said a large portion of the land in the proposed expansion area remains much as it did in the 1860s, untouched by commercial or industrial development.

She acknowledges the lengthy process of acquiring ownership of the land because of budget restraints, but stresses that the owners of family farms in the area would see no immediate effects from inclusion within the park's boundaries.

Supporters of expanding the boundaries say many of the owners of farms in the area could live out their lives on their land without any intrusion from the future park plans. The main change, they say, would come in halting the commercial development of the area which would forever alter the historic land.

But the expansion plan also has many opponents, mostly local, among property owners, real estate professionals and local government officials who want the desired battlefield land to become the next commercial growth corridor in fast growing Murfreesboro.

City and county officials are concerned about the effect of the expansion plan upon development plans already underway. Murfreesboro has already invested in a new sewer line along Thompson Lane in anticipation of expected development in the area. The city and county have joined together in



Photo provided

Civil War enthusiasts take place in one of the many war recreations that has taken place at Murfreesboro's Stones River National Battlefield.

ans for a commerce center which would be located within the proposed new boundaries of the battlefield.

Currently, the park consists of about 570 acres, which the Park Service now owns, of the nearly 4,000-acre battlefield. The park does not include all of the approximately 712 acres in the current approved boundary. About 122 acres is privately-owned land and 20 acres is owned by the city or county, according to the latest figures.

Land purchases within the current boundary is continuing as federal funds become available, according to Peckham.

The proposed boundary expansion would add about 760 acres to bring 1,471 acres within the park boundaries. This would still be far less than the original 4,000 acres over

which the Battle of Stones River took place from Dec. 31, 1862 to Jan. 2, 1863.

Congressional authorization is required for expansion of the park's boundaries. While Congress studies what to do, officials at the Stones River National Battlefield will continue to answer questions and address concerns from area residents and others interested in the park's future.

"We'll be involved in education as to what this plan really means," said Peckham. She said park officials hope to address the concerns of the property owners and let them know they would retain all legal rights to their property until purchased by the Park Service.

Student wins three Black and Gold titles

by Shawn Whitsell

She's a three-time golden winner, and there's more to go.

Leslia Miller, a senior wellness and fitness major and the only Bahamian student at the MTSU, completed in the regional competition for the Miss Black and Gold title in Georgia. She took home the gold.

Miller first competed in MTSU's Miss Black and Gold Pageant, which is sponsored by the Kappa Xi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. There, she entertained the crowd with her flamboyant and creative customs and outfit.

Miller impressed the audience with her poise and elegance. Her performance was topped off with a re-enactment of "The Creation," originally performed by God.

The short scene was complete with angels, columns and plants. Miller created a man right before the eyes of the crowd, just like God created Adam. Miller took home first place in the talent category and eventually gained the crown.

Miller went on to the state Miss Black and Gold Pageant competition, battling for the state crown. Miller shined once again. She won second place in the talent category and again took home the crown.

After the state pageant, Miller went on to compete for the regional Miss Black and Gold title. Her demanding performance won her first place in the talent category and brought home her third Miss Black and Gold crown.

Miller said her main reason for entering pageants is for self-motivation and self-confidence. She has competed in several and has had some good and bad experiences.

"The worst that can happen to person in a pageant, I've already experienced," She said.

Some of the good things were winning three Miss Black and Gold titles. Miller said that even with the good and bad times, the pageant experience is worth it.

"You get to bond with other females and experience being in front of a crowd," she said.

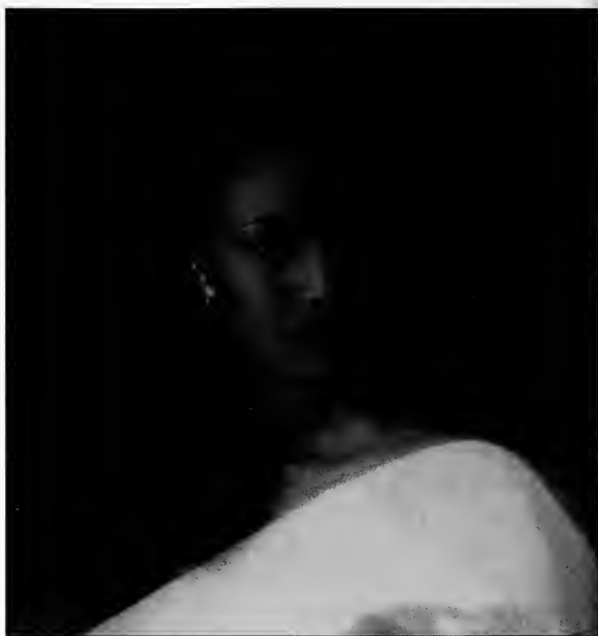
Though she highly recommends participation in pageants, Miller said ladies should participate in pageants because they want to, not because someone else wants them to.

"It has to be something you really want to do," she said.

Referring to the state and regional Miss Black and Gold pageants, Miller said she was honored to represent the Kappa Xi chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha.

"It feels good to represent them because they also won 'Chapter of the Year,' which is a major accomplishment. That tells me that not only am I working hard towards representing them but they are also working hard towards representing themselves. That makes me feel good," she said.

As for the future, Miller looks forward to doing more pageants but maybe not in her own country.



Leslia Miller

"No matter where you go, it's about who you know or who you are that could play against you or play in your favor. So I don't think I'll ever do any more pageants in my country," she said.

Miller said she may enter more pageants in the U.S., perhaps even next year's Miss MTSU contest.

After graduation, Miller plans to attend graduate school and maybe do more modeling. She wants to practice physical therapy in her country.

"The money is in the United States, but I do miss home a lot. So I'll probably go home, because there are not many physical therapists there, and our country needs the help," she said.

She also plans to help put MTSU on the map.

"When I go home and speak at high schools, I always tell them about MTSU so we can get more international students."

Miller said she owes much of her success to her parents, especially her mother, for encouraging and motivating her. She also credits Shane Rollen for designing her clothes, coming up with her talent and flying in from the Bahamas to support her in each pageant.

Miller's message to other people is to maximize the talents and gifts God has blessed them with.

"Even in the face of failure and setbacks, you have to have a drive and passion for accomplishments," she said.

Miller competes in the national Miss Black in the pageant in Texas in July.



Photos by Derrick Wilson

Right: Dalvin Albea grimaces after being asked to babysit at Alpha Nic, a picnic and party that is held once a semester. This party was held in April. Above: William Hytche spikes during a volleyball game at Alpha Nic.

Alphas named chapter of the year

By Shawn Whitsell

The Kappa Zeta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. was named the state's Chapter of the Year.

The Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity was established in 1906 at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY., by a group of men known as the "seven jewels." It was the first inter-collegiate Greek-letter fraternity for African-American men.

On March 25, 1975, the Kappa Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha was founded on the campus of MTSU by eight men, known as the "Asederian Eight."

According to Alpha President Eric Singleton, the award was given to the chapter of that stood out most for their achievements.

"It's an award given to the chapter that has displayed above exceptional job as far as community service, mentoring and implementing the projects the national organization has set forth for us," he said.

The award was given by the Association of Tennessee Alpha Men (ATA), which governs the chapter. The association also does the judging for all of the competition.

Singleton said the chapter participated in the three mandatory projects that the national organization requires. "Go to High School. Go to College" is geared toward keeping African-Americans in high school with hopes to influence them to pursue college.

Project Alpha teaches young African-American men about health-related issues such as teenage pregnancy and taking care of themselves. The Alphas also participate in a voter registration campaign called "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People."

Singleton said that one reason why the Kappa Zeta chapter stood out among other chapters in the state is because of three

major components on which they are based: proper etiquette, hard work and the presentation of that hard work to the highest possible level.

"Our organization does a lot of hard work," he said. "We are not about a lot of garbage. If you are an Alpha man, you are a man that's going to work."

"Our three goals are high scholastic skills, service to the community and to spread love for all mankind."

Singleton addressed the misconception some people may have about fraternities.

"A lot of people look at fraternities as gangs but it's a brotherhood," he said. "The brotherhood is the thing that I'm most proud of."

The Kappa Zeta chapter was named "Chapter of the Year" at MTSU at the Ebony Achievement Awards and placed first in the United Greek Council step show during homecoming week. They participate in the Adopt-a-Highway program as well as mentoring at local daycare centers.

The Kappa Zeta chapter also sponsors the Miss Black and Gold Pageant at MTSU.

"The reason why we are so successful as a fraternity is because we understand what it means to be in a fraternity. We understand what it takes to be in a fraternity, the aims and the goals. Alpha Phi Alpha the Kappa Zeta chapter strives for excellence in all endeavors," Singleton said.

Singleton said that he is proud of all the members of his chapter.

"I think they've done a wonderful job."

Other chapter members include Russell Elam, Paul Norman, Travis Sanford, Ernest Lewis, Eric Jackson, Timothy Pirtle, Jason Stegall, Jamal Hipps, William Hytche, Brian Miller, Rashad Craft, Brian Haywood, Lorenzo Hawkins III, Keith Jordon, Ryan Smith, Victor Brown and Torrence Riley.



Miss Middle Tennessee State University Jeana Layhew



Miss Middle Tennessee Blue Raider Andrea Knight

Miss MTSU, Miss MT Blue Raider crowned; advance to state pageant

By Kelly Dodd

Tucker Theater was filled to capacity as the 1999 Miss MTSU and Miss MT Blue Raider were chosen in January.

Jeana Leyhew, a 21-year-old senior majoring in vocal performance, was crowned the Miss Middle Tennessee State University. Andrea Knight, a 20-year-old freshman recording industry major, won the title of Miss Middle Tennessee Blue Raider.

Leyhew, who was sponsored by Chi Omega, and Knight, sponsored by Beta Theta Pi, were selected from 18 other contestants through talent, swimsuit and evening gown competitions.

The pageant, which has been sponsored by Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity for the past 23 years, is a preliminary competition to the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant held in Jackson in June. The winners of the pageant are awarded with various scholarships and prizes, in addition to being

given the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee and Miss America Pageants.

Entertainment was provided by Los Vatos, Fred Toler, the MTSU dancers, Kelly Culbreth, the 1998 Miss MTSU, Emily Zeringue, and Miss MT Blue Raider, Kate Swanson. Swing dancing and animated singing routines kept the energy in the air as the 18 contestants vied for the coveted titles.

Runners-up included Katy Francisco, as fourth alternate, DorLinda Rowe as third, second alternate Andrea Flowers, and Melissa Brownell as first alternate. Francisco was also awarded the Miss Congeniality title. Rob Patterson and Mark Rowland of SAE served as the executive and assistant directors of the pageant, respectively.

Leyhew, whose platform was family values, gave a vocal performance during the talent competition. Knight also sang during the talent competition but chose blood donation awareness as her platform. Both Leyhew and Knight advance to represent the university during the 1999 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant.

Alumnus is Miss USA runner-up

By Michael Edwards

Over the years the state of Tennessee has been represented by numerous people in many areas. This year, MTSU alumnus Morgan High wore the crown of Miss Tennessee.

In that capacity, she has served her home state well, finishing second in the Miss USA Pageant.

As a matter of fact, she did not compete in her first pageant until 1994, while a student at MTSU. In her days as a kid, Morgan says that she was more of a "tomboy" than the average little girl who plays with Barbie and watches pageants on television. In high school, Morgan was a cheerleader, and she attributes much of her activities as a child to her success as an adult.

"I was always into extracurricular activities when I was younger," High said. "I definitely think that helped me."

When Morgan went to college in 1992, she chose MTSU. Oddly, she never thought about entering any beauty contests. She said it was not until she saw a friend in a contest that she even contemplated trying. The next year she told her sorority sisters that she was interested in trying out for Miss Middle Tennessee Blue Raider. It was that comment that got her pageant career started. She was nominated by Kappa Delta sorority to enter the contest.

"It just seemed like fun, and that is why I entered it," High said.

Although she did not win the pageant her first attempt, High did not let that deter her from entering a second time. Usually the third time is the charm, but in High's case it the second time. In 1995, she won the Miss Middle Tennessee Blue Raider pageant and moved on to the Miss Tennessee pageant.

The following year Miss Blue Raider won the Miss Nashville contest. It was that contest that propelled her into the Miss Tennessee/America. Even though she did not win the Tennessee preliminary contest in 1996 that experience helped her in her later pageant experience.

The 1997 Miss Tennessee Blue Raider contest would prove to be the contest that would take her to the top of the beauty pageant scene. After winning the Miss Blue Raider pageant, Morgan continued to the Miss Tennessee/USA pageant. She proceeded through the rounds and at the end it was her name that was called as the winner of the Miss Tennessee pageant.

According to High the experience is one that she will never forget.

"We would wake up about 5 in the morning, and to go to breakfast by 6. From there we would rehearse until dark, when we would go to a function at night. By the time we went to bed it would be about one in the morning."



Morgan High

On to Branson, MO., she went to compete in the Miss USA Pageant. She was chosen as one of the 10 semi-finalists. After she won the evening gown competition easily, Morgan was chosen to one of the three finalists. The first name for second runner-up was called, and the name was Miss California. There were two left. Miss Tennessee – High – and Miss New York.

After moments of suspense, Morgan was announced as the first runner-up. Even though she did not win the competition, she continued to keep a great attitude.

"I was having fun, and I knew that I had done the best that I could," High said.

High gives much of the credit to her mother who she says has been behind her the whole time.

"Definitely the first person I would credit is my mom," High said resoundingly.

As life rolls on for High, she wants to continue her career in consumer service consulting. Indeed, she has already created her own company, MTH Consulting, which she hopes will turn into something bigger or get her a job with a larger firm.

"If you just be yourself it is a good experience. I would, without a doubt do it all over again," Morgan said.



Photo by Vickie Gibson

A Highland dancer takes a bow after performing in a contest at the Heart of Tennessee Scottish celebration, which was held on campus in October.

Scottish festival educates, entertains Highland style

By Shannon Tipton

Whether you're of Scottish descent or not, the Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration that took place on campus in October had plenty to offer from Scottish athletics to Celtic rock music.

Massed bands in kilts, the skirling sounds of bagpipes, Celtic music, the tossing of the caber and sheaf and the aroma of bridies and scones brought Scotland to MTSU. It's all part of the third annual Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration

sponsored by MTSU, the City of Murfreesboro and the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce.

More than 10,000 people from all over the southeast attended the activities, which included Scottish Highland games, pipe and drum bands, herding demonstrations, Highland cow and sheep exhibits, a British car show and the pageantry of the Parade of Tartans.

"Scottish athletics draw most non-Scottish people to the celebration," said Sandra Mauldin, the celebration's secretary in charge of clans. "The games include the caber toss or what people commonly call the telephone pole toss."



Photos provided

Above: A Scottish man learns about his clan at an informational table.

Left: A Scottish band performs for the crowd at the Scottish festival.



The equipment used for all the games are objects that could be found around any Scottish farm or village. The object of the caber toss is to throw the pole end-over-end so that the small end falls away from the contestant. Distance has no bearing on the outcome, just skill.

The sheaf toss has a obvious tie with agricultural regions of Scotland. Taking a pitchfork, the contestant must toss a 16-pound sheaf of hay over a bar. After each contestant has had a turn, the bar is raised until all athletes are eliminated except one.

Putting the stone is another of the many events designed to test strength and endurance. This is the equivalent of the Olympic shot put event except that a smooth rounded stone is used instead of a steel ball.

Professional athletes were allowed to compete, but amateurs were encouraged to join.

The tradition of the Highland games is ancient. More than a thousand years ago, clan chiefs used the games to test the strength and ability of their warriors. Though the games were originally developed to test the ability of the warriors, the games evolved into festive occasions in which the display of physical prowess continue to play an important part.

Entertainment at the festival included a variety of local, national and international performers all day Saturday. Special entertainers included Murfreesboro's own "Celtic-eclectic" Secret Commonwealth, Scottish singer/songwriter Ian Bruce, internationally known singer Colin Grant Adams and folk group Isla.

Performing bands included the Atlanta Pipe Band, Lovat-Cameron Pipe and Drums, Louisville-Nashville Pipe and Drums and Knoxville Pipe and Drums. The Hamilton Country

Dancers of Nashville hosted demonstrations and audience participation in Scottish country dancing.

More than 60 Scottish clans and societies shared their history and provided genealogical information at tents on the grounds. Many Scottish and Irish people settled in Tennessee and the southeastern United States. There are many descendants of these pioneers, and some of them may not be familiar with the culture and heritage of their forefathers.

Along with the music, exhibits, games and demonstrations, there were plenty of activities and competitions for children. Numerous vendors were set up with traditional food, jewelry and more. Todd Baxter of Woodbury showed long-horn Highland cows and calves along with black face sheep, Shetland sheep, Runner ducks and Shetland ponies.

One of the ways the event promoted the Scottish way of life is through educational seminars. These seminars were open to the public and included topics like Scottish history, spinning and weaving, genealogy, Scottish harp and fiddle demonstrations, the Gaelic language and Scottish dress.

A new event this year was an auction of authentic Scottish antiques and collectibles by Scottish auctioneer Hope Vere Anderson.

The auction featured items direct from Scottish estates that include furniture, clocks, glassware, pottery, paintings, prints, antiquarian books, silver and jewelry. There was no admission to the action, but a 15 percent buyer's premium was charged. A portions of the auction proceeds went to support the annual celebrations.

Another event of the weekend was the Kirkin' of the Tartan at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church on Sunday, followed by a luncheon and special entertainment.



File photos

Art students originally decorated the Art Barn, a former dairy barn that has housed their program 30 years, to draw attention to their building.

For the birds

Art students rally for new building

By Susan McMahan

Art department chair Carlyle Johnson likes to compare his department to an overgrown potted plant.

When a potted plant grows too big for its container, it's not just the plant that suffers. The pot also feels the crunch of decreased space and often cracks under the pressure.

Like the plant, the number of students involved in the art department has grown over the past 30 years, placing stress on the Art Barn.

"We really have outgrown our container," Johnson said.

The art department's container is a former dairy barn they have used as a "temporary facility" for the past 30 years. After 30 years of constant use, the building suffers from cracks, animal and termite infestation and a shortage of usable work space.

Now, with the possibility of a new, or at least improved, art facility looming just beyond the horizon, art students have joined together to make others aware of their cause.

They have formed the Student Art Alliance and have started a letter-writing campaign to President James Walker.

"We'll collect letters until ground breaks," said Judy Van Vorhis, spokeswoman for SAA and a senior graphic design major, adding that more than 100 letters have been collected to date for the campaign.

Van Vorhis said the students got together because they were concerned about the condition of the building.

The present building was not designed to accommodate the number of students involved with the art program. Johnson said there are currently 280 art majors trying to take classes. This number doesn't include the more than 900 students who are minoring in art or are taking general art classes.

The number of classrooms in the Art Barn is in the single digits, which means that parts of the department's classes must be held in other buildings.

For example, graphic design classes are held in the Saunders Fine Arts Building.

Because the areas of study in art are interdisciplinary, Johnson said it's difficult on students to be separate from the rest of their department.

The shortage of available space also has lead to a creative elective program for students who can't enroll in their required classes.

“Art students have been walking around this campus like second-class students. If you were housed in a barn, you would feel that way, too.”

**- Judy Van Vorhis,
spokeswoman for the
Student Art Alliance**

“Each student must have permission to take a class,” Johnson said. “We almost have discontinued open enrollment out of necessity.”

The department started an evening program because day classes filled so quickly. Classrooms in the Art Barn are used continuously from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Other ways the department has fought the lack of space include constructing a computer lab in a former storage closet, housing faculty offices in painting studios and using walls as gallery space for displaying class projects.

“Arts students have been walking around this campus like second-class students,” Van Vorhis said. “If you were housed in a barn, you would feel that way, too.”

The university also suffers because of the building itself. Johnson said the barn is the only reason that the department can’t get accredited by an outside agency.

If the program was accredited, the university would have a 100 percent rate of programs accredited.

In a consultant’s report prepared for the department in February 1997, Thomas Ferreira, a professor of art from California State University, compared the Art Barn to the numerous colleges and universities he has visited as a consultant.

“While some of these institutions have had seriously poor facilities for one or two of its departmental programs, I cannot recall one that is so egregiously inadequate in so many ways,” he writes. “Ironically, the art history lecture facilities and the studios in the Saunders building which would normally be subject to criticism almost look good when compared to the Art Barn, which is the worst facility overall that I have seen.

Johnson, now in his 10th year as chair of the department, said he was not surprised by the consultant’s report, which praises the job the staff and students are doing despite the poor working conditions.

He added the administration is aware of the problems faced by the department, and they are working to correct the situation. Although he would settle for a newer building, Johnson said he would prefer to have a new building.

A new building would eliminate the problems with the current building that Van Vorhis and other students are concerned about.

These problems include mice brave enough to eat food off of desks, termite infestation in the second floor and pigeons that defecate in the silos of the barn, which are used for supply storage.

Van Vorhis said the pigeons are a special concern to students because of histoplasmosis, a disease caused by a fungus common in bird excrement, which enters the body via the lungs. It can affect the lungs, spleen and central nervous system and can be fatal with prolonged exposure.

Another health concern to students is the lack of adequate ventilation in the building. Good ventilation is needed because of the materials students use in the classes.

Van Vorhis has a friend who is having asthma problems and taking medication because of the lack of ventilation. Van Vorhis said she knows her friend will no longer require the medication after graduation.

In addition to health concerns, there are accessibility issues. There is no disabled student access to the restrooms and the second floor of the building.

“It is hard to believe that the Art Barn is not in serious violation of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act,” Ferreira writes.

In addition to these problems, several rumors have circulated concerning the safety of the building in case of an emergency.

When Ferreira wrote his report, he said the building contained “enough fire hazards to give a fire marshal writer’s cramp.”

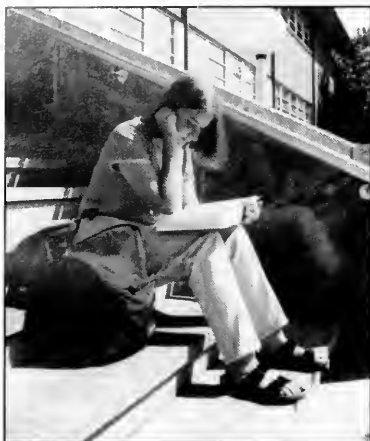
One rumor is that the barn is insulated with straw. Van Vorhis doesn’t know if it’s true.

Another is that the building would burn to the ground in six minutes if it caught fire. This rumor is not true, but she said students probably have only six minutes to get out of the building safely.

Van Vorhis said the scariest thing about the rumors is that the students are working in an environment where they are believable.

Clearing up the rumors is one of the things that SAA is trying to do. They are trying to get information to students about the Art Barn and to let others know that a new building is needed.

“We’re motivated by anger,” said Martin Topping, a senior fine arts major. “If this was a public school, people would be in a uproar. But since this is a university, most people think this kind of thing would never happen.”



Left: Honors student Julie Pitenger studies on the steps of Todd Library before her next class.
Above: An honors class meets outside in front of Peck Hall during the spring semester.

File photo

Honors College first in state

Staff Reports

MTSU has the first Honors College in the state, following approval by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

Established 24 years ago as an honors program, the honors college concept received approval from the Tennessee Board of Regents at its spring meeting.

"I have never dreamed that I would get the involved with something as grandiose as this, to be involved in the creation of a college at a university," said John Paul Montgomery. Along with the change in the program designation comes a title change for Montgomery, director of MTSU's Honors Program, who officially becomes dean of the new college.

Going from a program to a college means honors students will take 18 hours of general studies courses rather than 12, ending up with total of 36 semester hours rather than 24.

Throughout the program's history, honors classes have been smaller than other sections offered at the university, providing students with one-on-one attention from the university's best faculty.

"We're providing the education students would get at a small liberal arts college within the context of a university," Montgomery explained.

With the change in status from program to a college, Montgomery said students "will acquire better reading, writing, listening, and critical thinking skills."

The program has taken a number of steps over the years to meet the requirements of the National Collegiate Honors Association for its college designation, including honors dorms in Wood and Felder halls, which satisfies the residential requirement. Students currently enrolled in honors courses who want to continue with the Honors Program in its current form will have that option.

Although the program requires that students have a B average to be admitted, they are not just "bookworms," said Montgomery. Montgomery said the honors dorm students beat the track team in a game of flag football and stressed the diversity of students in the program ranges from artists and musicians to non-traditional students and students of differing ethnic groups.

"Our diversity helps provide a richness of experience," he said. Montgomery attributes the popularity of the growing college to the select college atmosphere provided by small classes and more one-on-one attention from the faculty.

In 1991, there were 119 students enrolled in 11 sections of honors courses. There are almost 700 students enrolled in more than 60 sections of honors courses now offered.

Lower division courses have 20 students each, and upper division courses are capped at 15 students.

One of the features of the college will remain the undergraduate thesis required for students, beginning during the junior year and completed during the first semester of the senior year.

Students defend their work before faculty and their peers in the lecture seminar.

New to the college is a one-hour tutorial, helping prepare students for writing the thesis. Students will do research on their proposed topic, state the problem, and document the fact that their topic has not been written on. The project can either be academic or creative.

Another trademark that will make the transition is the lecture series held each semester, featuring speakers from departments across campus, each speaking on the semester theme as it relates to their specific disciplines, providing students an "inter-disciplinary" look at a given subject and exposing them to the university's best faculty members.



File photo

New students attend Customs to learn about MTSU, which has the largest freshman class this year in the Tennessee Board of Regents system.

MTSU has largest freshman class

by Jamie Evans

A final head count of 18,432 students is up .36 percent from last fall, according to the enrollment comparisons report.

MTSU has the largest freshman class in the system this year. These freshmen had an ACT average of 21.8 percent, which is above the national average of 21.0 percent and exceeds the Tennessee tested population average 19.8 percent.

So, how long before MTSU hits 20,000 students?

Cliff Gillispie, associate vice president for enrollment management, said that initially it was projected to be 2002. However, he said enrollment did not reach expectations this fall.

"We didn't grow this fall as much as we thought we would," Gillispie said.

The new projection using the latest numbers has not been completed yet, but MTSU is expected to have 20,000 students by 2002 or 2003, according to Gillispie. He also said that there is no end to this growth trend in sight.

But how many students can MTSU handle?

Gillispie said there are two factors to how many students can be accommodated.

One is the number of faculty available to teach courses. The university filled several faculty positions this year so faculty availability is not a problem, according to Gillispie.

The second factor is day-to-day issues like buildings and parking. Gillispie said with the new Business and Aerospace building classroom space is not that much of an issue. However, he said there is one area of study that is suffering.

"We are reaching capacity on science courses," Gillispie said. "We desperately need a new science building."

With the shortage of science classes offered, some freshmen are having to take their first year science courses during their sophomore year, Gillispie said.

Other information from the enrollment comparison report showed that the top six feeder colleges for transfer students are Motlow State, Volunteer State, Columbia State, Nashville State Tech, UT-Knoxville and Tennessee Tech. The top four feeder institutions are all community colleges in the TBR system. MTSU has a long tradition of getting students from these colleges because credits are easily transferred, Gillispie said.

The largest school in the TBR system is the University of Memphis with 20,108 students, up 1.27 percent from last year.

Smoke, *fire,* *blast* **gets Pood touch**

By Vickie Gibson

There was plenty of smoke and noise when the Tennessee Aviation Days Air Show returned to Smyrna Airport in September with big name aviation pilots and plenty of unusual aircraft.

MTSU's Elliott Pood, RATV professor and part of the Toro Bomb Quad, will be among those making extra smoke and noise through pyrotechnic special effects.

Pood has been involved in ground-based pyrotechnics for about eight years. While he has always been interested in aviation, it was while he was working on a documentary about the Smyrna Air Show eight years ago, that he was invited to tag along with one of the professional explosives experts, Ron Gilbert of Hermitage Explosives in Nashville, during the next day's effects.

"I happened to be in the right place at the right time," said Pood, who attends air shows all over the country.

The Toro Bomb Squad act involves 10 to 12 aircraft with special effects simulations that are carefully planned and rehearsed. Pood said the initial rehearsals are time-consuming but once they have the act down, the same act is repeated at various air shows throughout the country.

Pood said the pyrotechnics crew he works provided effects for many of the acts at Smyrna's show. From the audience's view it looks as though the explosions are close to

the aircraft, they actually are not. "We know where the pyrotechnics are going to be," he explained. "The two shall not intermingle."

The professor is also involved in work with the Confederate Air Force in Texas. That group keeps old American military aircraft flying, he explained, "sort of a living museum."

Pood said he had always wanted to fly and is now working on his pilot's license. His involvement with air shows has allowed him opportunities to fly many different types of airplanes such as a P-51 Mustang, B-17 and Japanese Zero fighter.

His interest in aviation has led him into several other projects. Last year, he was director, producer and editor of a 30-minute television program for Armed Forces TV. The program, filmed at Offutt Air Force base, was to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Air Force.

Pood is also a member of the Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club, which sponsors the annual air show with the Donelson-Hermitage Rotary Club. He serves on the planning subcommittee of the air show. "It takes a lot of time and a lot of people to pull off a successful air show," said Pood, who also said there are many people at MTSU involved in the show through the Rotary Club and aerospace department. "This is totally public service. Everyone is putting a lot of time in without and compensation. The university makes it possible for us to do this kind of stuff."



Photo by Elliot Pood

A worker with the Tennessee Aviation Days Air Show demonstrates a special pyrotechnic effect similar to what was on display at the show.

Faye Johnson, president of the Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary Club and associate professor of sociology and anthropology at MTSU, is one of those who puts a lot of time into the air show.

Murfreesboro's chapter of Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), headed by president David Swindler, is also involved with the show.

MTSU's aerospace department also participates in the show, along with various student organizations such as Future Airport Executives. The restored deHavilland DHC-2 airplane, known as the Beaver, was on display along with other aerospace department aircraft.

Headlining the show was Nashville native Bob Hoover, considered a living legend in aviation. Hoover, who flew the chase plane when Chuck Yeager broke the sound barrier in

October 1947, performed and Aero Commander Strike in which he did numerous aerobatics and maneuvers ending with 10 minutes of stunts with both engines shut down.

Hoover learned to fly at Nashville's Berry Field. A dinner and reception honoring the 60th anniversary of his first solo flight was held here in September.

The air show's other acts included: Tora 101, a replica of the famous Japanese Zero fighters vs The Gunfighter in a recreation of a classic dogfight by Doug Jackson and retired USAF Brigadier General Reg Urschler; Les Shockley's Super Shockwave Jet Truck driven at over 300 miles per hour by Ken High; The Avenger's drug awareness program by Larry Green; Airshow Alliance International jet and comedy acts with aerobatics by Bill Davis, Jack Elel and Kathy Elel; and the world renowned Warbirds flying vintage WWII aircraft.



Students battle Ocoee's rapids

By Stacey Jones

People come here from all over the world to get their pants wet. Flooded drawers and soggy shoes are a fact of life at the Ocoee River, an attraction that brings visitors to the small town of Ocoee, Tenn.

"My friends and I splashed around in the river for years, but in 1975 we got this crazy idea to raft it," says J.T. Lemons, co-owner of Ocoee Outdoors Rafting Co. "So that is exactly what we did; and believe it or not; we started a company."

Now, there are more than 10 companies that attract 125,000 people each season, many of them MTSU students who have signed up for the adventure through Campus Recreation. In the busy months of July and August, the river hosts 8,000 people each weekend.

The drive to the river on the long and curvy Highway 64 makes everyone anxious to hit the cool water.

Equipped with paddles, helmets and life jackets, the crew gets ready for the Ocoee challenge.

Last-minute instructions are given as the passengers squish themselves into the large inflatable raft and smile at each other. Rick, the river guide, gives them a push and jumps in back to begin the ride.

"All forward," yells the guide. The passengers glance at each other and dig their paddles into the white current.

Everyone's face portrays the look of pure excitement as the raft slides over the first rapid, known affectionately as Grumpy's. There are bigger rapids yet to come, but Grumpy's definitely gives the rafters a taste for more.

After several more rapids, the current allows the guide to steer the boat to the river's side to sift the water from the boat and customers. The crew works together to empty the raft of excess water. One girl grabs the bucket and gives a friend a cold splash in the face.

Everyone gets readjusted, and Rick issues more commands such as, "left side back," "right side forward," and "dig, dig, dig." Soon, they hit another big rapid, Broken Nose.

"My friend and I were in the front of the raft, and we got soaked," says a college student from Mississippi. "I don't think the people in the back got too wet, but my ears were ringing from their loud screams."

Next, it's time to surf. The guide instructs the crew, and with all their strength they dig their paddles into the water. The raft slowly turns, then gets faster, and now it's moving in circles. The big blue raft turns in a clockwise motion, then back the other way, gets drenched as they slide around inside the slippery boat, keeping it balanced. They laugh hysterically as the raft slowly pops out of the surfing hole and moves down river.

The passengers are now dripping wet from the surfing, and their arms are numb from the constant paddling. When the current eventually calms, the tired rafters, with their life



File photos

Rafters shoot the rapids on the Ocoee River in Ocoee, Tenn. Many MTSU students have battled the Ocoee rapids thanks to trips sponsored by Campus Recreation.



ackets and helmets securely fastened, plunge into the river and float. The water is calm and a bit chilly, but the crew seems to enjoy the time to relax and splash their families and friends.

"The next section of the river is wonderful," says a 56-year-old returning customer. "We don't have to paddle. We can just sit back and watch the beautiful scenery."

The trees surrounding the river sway from side to side as the rafters breathe the moist Tennessee air. A honeysuckle scent lingers, giving the atmosphere a fresh aroma.

Everyone is staring into the mountains as the next rapid takes them by surprise. This rapid is exactly what it does. No one expects it as Rick yells, "Hold on!" and the raft falls down the slender waterfall.

"Where did that come from?" asks the whole crowd in unison.

"Turn around, guys!" the guide screams, "We all have to work together on this one!"

Everybody is serious as Rick yells, "Paddle forward now!"

Swish! The raft hits Double Suck. The front of the boat jerks forward into the deep hole and shoots back up, before falling into the calmness below.

"Wow, that was so awesome," says Jon, a teen-ager from Cleveland, Tenn.

The rafters then turn the boat to the right to conquer Double Trouble, the rapid where most passengers photos are

taken. Everyone has an imprinted smile on their face from constant laughter as the raft flies above the whitewater.

"I've never come across the same expression on anyone's face as they come over this Class III rapid," says John Ogden, head photographer and owner of Whitewater Photography at the Ocoee.

After everyone settles down, the raft approaches Jump Rock, a huge rock passengers can mount and jump from. The current is calm and there are no rocks.

As he positions to dive, a 12-year-old boy announces he has jumped four times.

The ride continues to excite the customers with several huge rapids but is now slowly coming to an end.

But wait, one more rapid remains. Viewers are perched on the riverside watching the customers as they approach Hell's Hole. They slip to the side of one rock and down another. The boat turns swiftly to the left and they quickly swing through the last rapid holding their paddles and grasping for air. The passengers in front sink down into the ballooned raft, while those in back fly forward into the front seats.

Everyone is ecstatic and worn out as they head toward the raft takeout.

"Can we do it again?"

Student wins Miss Rutherford County

By Vickie Gibson

Two young women are on their way to the Miss Tennessee Pageant after being crowned as winners of the 1999 Miss Heart of Tennessee/Miss Rutherford County Pageant in September.

MTSU senior Nicole Lester was crowned Miss Rutherford County in the unique dual pageant held at Tucker Theatre on campus. Lester is a political science major with an emphasis on pre-law. She is one of nine MTSU students in the pageant.

The sometimes unlucky number "13" proved lucky for Correna "Cory" Thompson, a senior at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, who was selected as Miss Heart of Tennessee. Thompson was contestant number 13 out of 15 contestants. She is majoring in hotel and restaurant administration at UT-K.

Both won \$1,000 in local prize money and are eligible for more scholarships through competition in the Miss Tennessee Pageant in Jackson in June. Last year's Miss Heart of Tennessee winner, Heather Brooke Heath, the reigning Miss Tennessee, crowned Thompson, and Andrea Knight-Gillaspie, the reigning Miss Rutherford County, crowned Lester.

MTSU junior Angela C. Burks, a Recording Industry Management/ business major, is first runner-up to Miss Rutherford County. Second runner-up is Melissa Brownell, a sophomore business communication/ marketing major at MTSU.

First runner-up to Miss Heart of Tennessee is Jamie Watkins, a UT-Chattanooga freshman majoring in music education. Second runner-up is Heather Norman, a UT-K senior majoring in broadcasting.

Julie Plummer, an MTSU junior majoring in public relations, took home the Miss Congeniality award.

Contestants included MTSU students Cynthia Merkt, a junior art education major; Jessica Pitzer, a junior apparel design and photography major; Dana Eckerle, a sophomore public relations major; Catherine Zselvay, a senior elementary education major and Amy Boatman, a sophomore elementary education major.

Other contestants were Rebecca Jones, a Roane State Community College dental hygiene major; Lora Perry, a UT-C elementary education major and Molly Adams, a UT-K therapeutic recreation-occupational therapy major.

Master of ceremonies for the event was Jenny Fisher Telwar, who earned her masters degree in mass communication at MTSU and was second runner-up in the 1996 Miss Tennessee Pageant.

Judges for the pageant were Angela Medders Bobo, a regional coordinator of Junior Miss pageants; Debbie Bedocs,



Nicole Lester

the first Miss Heart of Tennessee in 1995; Amy Skelley, a kindergarten teacher at Siegal School and former contestant and emcee of various pageants; Michael Vanzant, psychology teacher at Riverdale High School and Mark Weems, cosmetologist and board member of Miss Nashville Pageant.

The evening's competition included talent, swimsuit and evening wear categories. Interviews with judges took place earlier that afternoon. The judging criteria used scores for talent at 40 percent, interview at 30 percent, swimwear at 15 percent and evening wear at 15 percent.

The talent competition included vocals, tap dances, baton, ballet and ad art presentation.

Lester sang old favorite "Hold Me." Thompson sang "The Birth of the Blues." Burks said "Fever," and Brownell said Broadway's "Until Now." Watkins said "Villa de la Rosa" and Norman twirled one, then two and finally, three batons to Tina Turner's "Proud Mary."

Merkt did a quick sketch of art of stage and displayed various black and white artworks as her talent. Pitzer sang "A Happy Girl," Eckerle said "Remember Me This Way" and Zselvay performed her favorite dance routine.

Boatman tapped to "Jailhouse Rock," and Plummer sang "On My Own" from "Les Miserables." Jones sang and accompanied herself on the piano, Perry did ballet en pointe and Adams sang a ballad.

This year's pageant was sponsored by Kappa Alpha Order and was put together by a large team of volunteers, according to David Swaim, executive producer. The local scholarship pageant is a preliminary to the Miss Tennessee Pageant and often sends young women who do well at the state competition, winning additional scholarship money.



File photos

A Polynesian dance (left) and an African Street fair (right) were some of the events held on campus to celebrate International Culture Week.

Getting a taste of international culture

Annual banquet ends International Culture Week on campus

Staff Reports

It was a great flavor of culture for the 330 people who turned out for the annual banquet to close MTSU's International Culture Week on April 10.

Thomas Li-ping Tang, professor of management and marketing, was honored at the event with the Distinguished International Service Award.

A special plaque was presented in honor of the late Esther Millon Seeman for nearly 30 years of service to MTSU and the Japan Center of Tennessee.

The recognition was received by her husband, Jules Seeman, a professor at Vanderbilt University.

Tang has served as faculty advisor for the Chinese Student Association and the Chinese Culture club since 1983. He and his students have sponsored many colorful activities such as the Chinese New Year Party, Mid-August Full Moon Festival, potluck dinners and picnics.

He has served on many committees such as the International Culture Week Planning Committee, the International

Distinguished Service Award and the Multi-Culture Committee.

Tech Wubnech, director of International Programs and Services, noted that the US leads the world in the foreign-student populations and has enrolled more than 481,000 foreign students in institutions of higher learning this year.

"With increased mobility, refugee resettlement programs and more emphasis put on educational exchange," Wubnech said. "Americans are being exposed to more ethnic groups and races than past generations.

"This is why it is so important to have a cultural awareness week so that we may gain an understanding who are fast becoming our neighbors and our colleagues."

Entertainment was provided by the Polynesian Reflections dance troupe and by the Celtic songs of Secret Commonwealth.

Various amateur groups added to the international flavor of the evening. Encouraged by the audience and Polynesian dancers, certain high-ranking MTSU officials were led to the stage to do a bit of hula dancing.



File photo

Members of the Student Government Association read and debate bills during a meeting.

SGA works to help students

by Jamie Evans

Jason Lawson, Student Government Association president, charged into office this fall ready to help his fellow students.

"I believe my job is to be the mouthpiece for the student body, but not make decisions for them," Lawson said. "I'm not up here playing God or anything."

Following a very energetic campaign, where students went face to face with each other, he won the SGA presidency.

Will he be able to keep this energy up and follow through with his promise?

Like other SGA presidents of the past, Lawson has attempted to keep up his energy and follow through with his promises. And the first order of business — parking.

At a town hall meeting for all students in the fall at the Business/Aerospace Building, Lawson presented 11 possible solutions to correcting the parking situation. These solutions

were the result of a statistical study that Lawson did over the summer break.

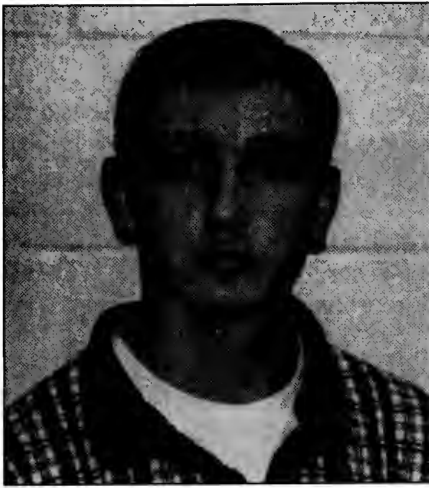
Lawson agrees with all of the options such as tuition increases and no freshman parking, but he said he is going let the students decide for themselves.

"Some of these solutions could drastically change the campus," Lawson said. "Students need to be there."

Lawson said the 200-300 students who showed up were representative of the students who are the most "furious" about parking. These students will vote on the possible solutions and, if they vote one down, it will be off the list. The result will be sent to the appropriate administration.

Former SGA President Ryan Durham and his administration had a similar meeting when students gathered to voice their complaint to the MTSU administration about parking.

There were no faculty or administration at this meeting, because, he said, he wanted this meeting to be more of a problem and solution session.



SGA President Jason Lawson



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Angie Burks, left, swears in Jennifer Sykora as the Student Government Association speaker of the house during a meeting in January.

Lawson worked on trying to improve other stresses of student life such as food services and housing.

According to Lawson, the Woodmore Cafeteria renovation during winter break turned the cafeteria into a place oriented for students living in the surrounding dorms and made it more accessible for them to eat while studying. When re-opened, the service hours were noon until midnight and was equipped with a Burger King, a Starbucks Coffee and a convenience store.

Lawson also supported building more apartment-style dorms, such as that planned for the near future.

"Our housing on campus has been needing this for years," Lawson said.

Each unit in these new dorms will house four students. Each resident will have a private bedroom and share a living room and kitchen area with the other three occupants. There will also be a parking space designated for each occupant. Construction on this project has already began.

In addition to Lawson's plans, the Senate and House of Representatives worked on five pieces of legislation aimed at improving student life.

The first is a resolution that deals with safety on campus by asking additional lighting to be installed around the Keathley University Center.

"Over the past there have been several students attacked on or near campus," the resolution sated. "Many students use the KUC at night, and lighting around the KUC is for from sufficient."

The resolution was sponsored by senators Jennifer Sykora and Aaron Tallent and by representatives Lief Swanson, Amanda Griffin and Jeremy Baker. They state in the resolution that they want at least three additional lights to be installed around the KUC with extra lighting between the Forrest Hall and the KUC and Todd Library and the KUC.

The House worked on a bill to create an Off-Campus Transportation Commission.

"There is a very serious parking problem on the campus of MTSU," the bill states. "The situation will only get worse until the problem is solved."

The commission, which will be made up of four members, will be responsible for researching and developing a comprehensive parking plan to help solve the parking problem, according to the bill. "The plan shall involve the use of possible methods of off-campus transportation, and/or ways to reduce the number of vehicles that are driven to campus every day," the bill states.

The other three bills deal with student life in a more indirect way.

Two of the bills were similar. The first was designed to prohibit double jeopardy by any SGA court.

According to the bill, the SGA should have a judicial system of the highest integrity which should provide due process of law. The sponsors of the bill want it to be established that "no person may be tried for any offense a second time after a verdict of not guilty, by any court of the SGA."

The second similar bill amended one section of the first bill.

It makes the exception that a person may be retried if it can be proved that the court was illegally influenced.

The last bill called for a training program for the justices on the Court of Traffic Appeals to be established. This program shall be supervised by the senate Judicial and Governmental Affairs Committee and the SGA president, according to the bill.

For any of these bills to pass into law, they must first be passed by both the House and the Senate. Then they must be approved by Lawson. Finally, they must be signed by Vice President for Student Affairs Robert LaLance.

Photos by
Derrick Wilson

Left: The witch (Holli Harrison) chases Hansel (Angie Gortmaker) and Gretel (Claire Sevier) in MTSU's November production of the opera "Hansel and Gretel."

Right: Ian Hunt, center, portrays Tommy in the MTSU Theatre production of the rock opera "Tommy," which was written by members of the band The Who. The show was performed on campus in November.



'Tommy,' 'Hansel and Gretel'

By Michael Barton and Vickie Gibson

Musicals filled the stages with a broad range of sound at MTSU's Tucker Theatre and Wright Music Hall this fall with a rock opera and a classic children's story presented as an opera.

Written by British rock group The Who in the late 1960s, "Tommy" is a musical that incorporates rock music instead of traditional musical numbers.

"Tommy" is the only production by the theatre department this semester. Theatre students wanted to pick something that would draw a lot of people, according to director Deborah Anderson.

"We wanted to do a big musical that people knew about," Anderson said. "There were lots of musicals that we could have picked that we really liked, but a lot of people don't know about them."

"The students all like the music, their parents and even some of their parents and even some of their grandparents know the music . . . so it's pretty accessible to everyone.

The brainchild of The Who guitarist Pete Townshend, "Tommy" was originally recorded as a rock album by the band, with lead singer Roger Daltrey singing the parts of all the characters that later will be featured in the musical.

In the early '70s, "Tommy" was transformed into the rock opera that the public is familiar with today.

"Tommy" is the story of an young man who, after witnessing a traumatic scene between his parents at the age of four, becomes deaf, dumb and blind.

Tommy suffers a horrendous childhood full of abuse, but finds his niche in life when he is introduced to a pinball machine by his abusive older cousin.

The pinball machine becomes Tommy's creative outlet. Though he cannot see or hear the machine, Tommy plays by instinct (or, according to the lyrics of "Pinball Wizard," one of the songs featured in the musical, he "plays by sense of smell") and soon becomes one of the most talented pinball players around.

Tommy eventually reaches legendary status as "The Pinball Wizard," achieving the type of superstardom that, according to Anderson, would rival the likes of Elvis Presley



bring opera music to campus

and, like Elvis, reaches a point in his life when he feels very misunderstood by his fans.

According to Anderson, "Tommy" was been a large project to tackle, with a cast of 25 and a large, intricate set. But because the theatre department chose to do only the one show instead of the usual two, they wanted to do a show that incorporated more resources and people.

Because of the large set this production was particularly taxing for the actors involved. Many of the set pieces were wheeled on and off the stage in between scenes, and the actors moved the set pieces.

"Not only did they have to remember everything they did in the show— which is a lot because some of them played 10 different characters — they had to remember what to move on the stage and when," Anderson said.

On another stage, the familiar childhood story "Hansel and Gretel" was presented as an opera by MTSU's music department.

"It's fantasy come to life on the stage," said Christine Isley-Farmer, music professor and director of the production. Based on the classic Brothers Grimm fairy tale, the fully-

staged opera was suitable for the whole family, she said. The cast included MTSU students, most of whom are senior voice performances majors, and children from Homer Pittard Campus School.

Angie Gortmaker played Hansel. Clare Sevier, a senior vocal music education major, was Gretel. Rebekah Menard portrayed the mother. Oliver Henderson was the father and Holli Harrison was the witch. The part of the dew fairy was double cast with sophomore Alice Matlock and Stacey Mangrum each doing one performance. Sophomores Emily Zeringue and Alysa Cannon took turns portraying the sandman.

Nancy Turpin-Ammerman was choreographer. Raphael Bundage conducted the orchestra. Amy Tate-Williams of the Nashville Opera Association was coach accompanist. Taylor Bills of Murfreesboro did the set design and Jeff Warren, a theatre major, was in charge of lighting and sound.

Campus School teacher Karen Blooding helped prepare students Melissa Hudson, Sarah Lavery, Meagan Crowe, Brad Horn, Joshua Hays and Ryan Branschler for their roles as gingerbread children.

Boston Pops

World famous orchestra makes stop in Murfreesboro after conductor visits MTSU

conducts a stop at Murphy Center

By: John Garner

The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, under the baton of conductor Keith Lockhart, brought more than 100 years of musical tradition to the heartland of Tennessee when it took the stage at MTSU's Murphy Center.

On a summer evening in 1885, the Boston Symphony Orchestra presented the first in a series of musical performances intended to recreate the pleasures of the European concert garden. The program for these concerts will be made up largely of light music of best class.

Although the first program humorously tossed together other European composers, a heritage uniquely American was launched that night.

"It has become one of the things that defines our American Experience," wrote critic Richard Dysart in 1985. Audiences took readily to the series. Throughout most of its first

30 years, the orchestra increasingly consolidated compositions by American musicians into its schedule. By 1899, "The Stars and Stripes Forever!" had been adopted as the regular finale for the Promenade Concerts, and in 1900 they became officially recognized as the Boston Pops.

The process of bringing the world-renown popular orchestra to Murfreesboro was surprisingly easy, according to Mimi Thomas, assistant director of Student Programming.

Lockhart was familiar with MTSU when we approached him," Thomas said, "Last spring, the chairperson for the ideas and issues committee arranged for our music department to host him as a guest speaker."

Following the lecture, Lockhart accepted a ride to the airport from Student Programming Director Harold C. Smith. While en route, Smith asked the 39-year-old maestro what it would take to bring the Pops to our campus.

"If you're really interested, just give us a call," Lockhart reportedly said.



Photo provided
Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra conductor Keith Lockhart

The timing couldn't have been better. Their office was organizing what has developed into a seven-city tour of the southeastern United States. MTSU is scheduled to be the first stop of that tour.

"We were very excited to host Keith and the Pops Esplanade Orchestra," Thomas said. "This was a premiere event. How many times do you have a chance to attend the first ever performance at MTSU of a world-famous orchestra? That's a lot to get excited about!"

Thomas pointed out that the logistics of putting on the concert proved to be no problem.

"Murphy Center is right there, ready to be used. The concert was scheduled on a weekend when classes aren't in session, so the public could find plenty of open parking spaces. We expected that everybody, from 'Town and Gown' to the high school clarinet player, wanted to be there."

Lockhart opened the concert with a performance of Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John William's "Liberty

Fanfare." The piece was composed for the Statue of Liberty centennial in 1986.

The Pop's most famous conductor, Arthur Fiedler, established the tradition of playing music the average American enjoys hearing and this will continue in a selection of music offering something for everyone attending. The performance will feature selections from the motion pictures "Titanic" and "Hook", Aaron Copeland's "Buckaroo Holiday" and Leonard Bernstein's "Simple Song" from "Mass."

The program also featured a set with Robin McElhatten, a vocalist who started out singing in church with her mother and grew to be a natural performer who has sung everything from music theater to rock and roll and R&B.

The concert closed with several selections from "Runnin' Wild: The Boston Pops Plays Glen Miller" and a medley of Elvis Presley hits titled "Long Live the King!"

UEC protests refusal to change MTSU's discrimination policy

Group wants 'sexual orientation' added to list

by Chris Crockett

The Uniform Equality Committee held protest this spring in front of MTSU President James Walker's home, in response to the university's refusal to add sexual orientation to the university's non-discrimination policy.

The Uniform Equality Committee was formed under the Lambda Association for the purpose of ensuring equal protection for students, faculty and staff regardless of sexual orientation. The UEC has campaigned for the term "sexual orientation" to be added to the university's non-discrimination policies.

Lambda vice president and UEC chairperson Talia Elwell said, "It is President Walker's duty to make MTSU a place where professors can teach and students can learn without fear."

According to Elwell, the UEC had the support of the Student Government Association, Faculty Senate, University Rules Committee and numerous other campus organizations, but Dr. Walker still refused to agree to their request.

The organization requested that President Walker respond to their demands by April 5, a deadline on which they would take action upon his refusal to comply. That action was in the form of a protest held on the sidewalk near President Walker's home.

UEC members and their supporters met in front of the president's home to make their demands about the change known.

However, MTSU still has no plans to change its non-discrimination policy to include sexual orientation.

"This issue is already adequately covered by MTSU policy," said Tom Tozer of New and Public Affairs.

Tozer added that the university would not tolerate the harassment or discrimination against any student or faculty member in regard to his or her sexual orientation.

The university's harassment policies, including cases involving sexual orientation, can be found in the MTSU Policies and Procedures Manual.

The manual states, "Fair and prompt consideration shall be given to all charges of such harassment in accordance with the procedures set forth."

The manual adds that any employee, applicant or student who believes he or she has been the victim of sexual harassment; or harassment based on their protected class status, i.e. race, age, religion, disability; or harassment based on sexual orientation can utilize the university's procedures regarding such harassment.

"There are currently no state or federal guideline in place that would include sexual orientation as a recognized protected class," Tozer added.



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Members of the Uniform Equality Committee protest near the president's lawn in April about the university's decision not to include "sexual orientation" in MTSU's anti-discrimination policy.

The university's equal opportunity, affirmative action, discrimination and nepotism policy states that it is the university's intent to comply fully with federal and state laws regarding discrimination and equal opportunity.

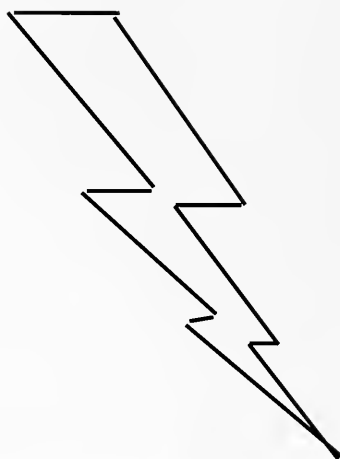
Because there are no laws in place recognizing sexual orientation as a defined protection which would, therefore, it is MTSU's position that it is unnecessary to include sexual orientation in the non-discrimination policy.

Tozer said that it is the position of the university that this issue is already covered by its current policies and there is no need for changes. Despite the university's current position, the UEC plans to continue its campaign to have sexual

discrimination policy. It is their belief that this change is necessary to protect the rights of student and faculty members because of their sexual orientation and that MTSU's current policies do not go far enough in protecting individuals from harassment because of their sexual orientation.

"Recent attacks on gay persons," Ewell said, "leading to the deaths of Matthew Shephard in Wyoming and Billy Jack Gaither in beating of Bryan Smith on the Greenway in Murfreesboro illustrate the need for an lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered person organization to represent their rights at MTSU."

THE





GALLERY

Above: Untitled by Keith Russell reprinted from Collage
Left: Untitled by Gieves reprinted from Collage



NEW ORLEANS
by Teresa Mason
Reprinted from Collage



NASHVILLE SKYLINE
by Steve Purinton



TIBETAN WOMAN
by Teresa Mason
Reprinted from Collage

BALLERINA
by Teresa Mason
Reprinted from Collage





ONE ANGEL'S FLIGHT
by Jeremy Cowart
Reprinted from Collage



UNTITLED

by Tony Michelle Purvis
Reprinted from Collage



FORM
by Angela Skala



CONTRAMARCHER
by Crespín Galindo
Reprinted from Collage



UNTITLED
by Jeremy
Cowart
Reprinted
from Collage



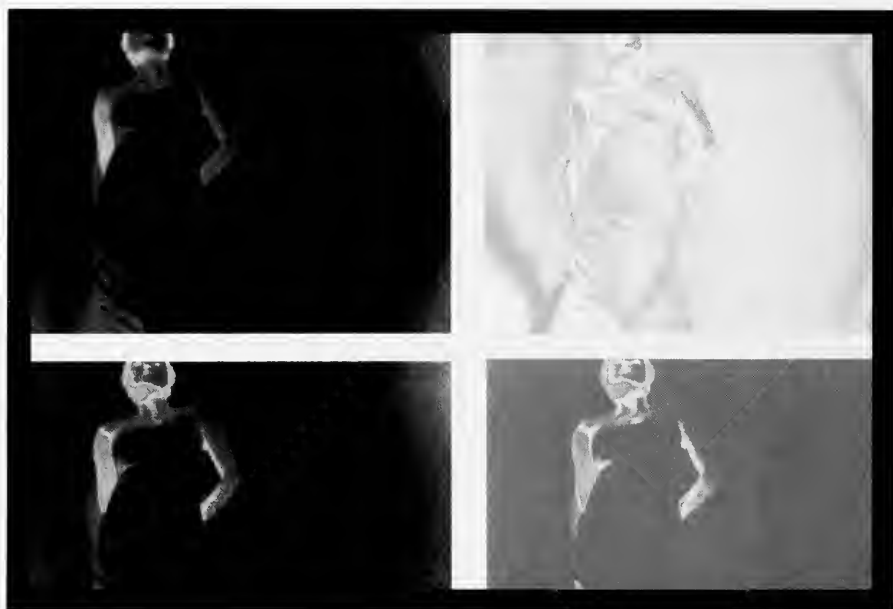
FALL
by Steve Purinton



UNTITLED

by Gieves

Reprinted from Collage



SELF PORTRAIT
by Teresa Mason
Reprinted from Collage



UNTITLED
by Angela Skala



GREAT GRANDFATHER REYNOLDS

by Alicia Fayth Reed

Reprinted from Collage



FLOWER
by Toni Michelle Purvis
Reprinted by Collage



SENTINEL
by Angel Skala



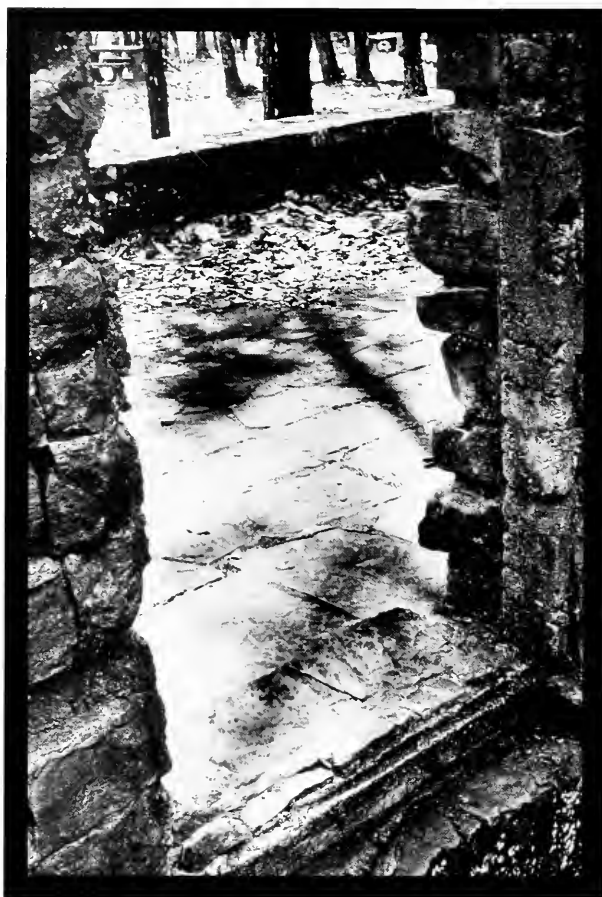
MEMPHIS
by Derek Wilson



CONTRASTS
by Angel Skala



UNTITLED
by Gieves
Reprinted by Collage



MONTE SANO

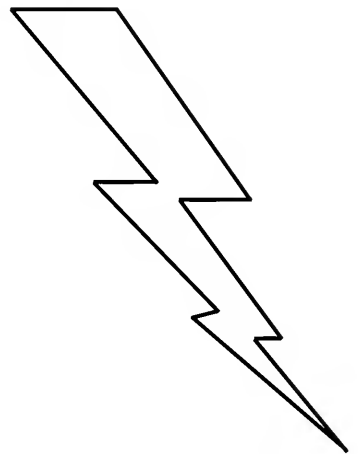
by Alicia Fayth Reed
Reprinted from Collage



UNTITLED
by Steve Purinton



MtSU



ORGANIZATIONS



Omega Phi Alpha



First Row: Jennifer Parker, Ginny Duncah, Shannon Turrill, Jennifer Sylhora, Erica Warren, Amanda Griffin, Angela Raines
Second Row: Wodora Stapp, Angela Bartel, Anika Waters, Casey Ferguson, Shannon Brown

Blue Brigade Drill Team



Photo Provided

Left to Right: John Womack, Michael Lynn, Jennifer Phelps, Susan Sweetman

Ultimate Frisbee Club



Front Row: Jonathan Bierer, David Scott, John Wells, Paul Bonner
Second Row: Willie Jones, Alan Dicks, Greg Demo, Eric Frauman, Daniel Box

Alpha Omega



Members Include: Lauren Adkins, Michael Agee, Jamey Anderson, Thomas Arrington, Joseph Ash, Trevor Atwood, Owen Barker, Lauren Barton, Erin Baumer, Angelica Bennett, Matthew Blankenship, Jessica Bogess, Paul Bole, Nathan Bracy, Chelle Bradburn, Brianna Bradbury, Selina Bradley, Joe Brasfield, Lori Bruce, Cayce Bunch, Antwann byrd, Joseph Chandler, Lisa Christenberry, Matthew Christy, Aaron Coe, Carmen Coe, Brandwon Coffee, Katie Coffin, Carrie Cooter, Josh Cormier, Kat Coulston, Jeremy Cowart, Carrie Culver, Jonathan Daniel, Ashley Davis, Holly Davis, Jason Dietz, Jamie Driver, Andrew Duncan, Brandon Ellis, Russ Emrath, Keyanna Ensey, Erik Faulk, Ginny Felts, Clark Fitzgerald, Shelby Flippo, Amrah Grant, John Gunter, Morgan Harris, Shaun Hartsell, Brent Heilig, Matt Helm, Lindsay Henderson, Beth Henrich, Benji Henson, Jodi Herndon, Chad High, Ginger Hooper, Chris Hudson, David Knapp, Erin Kuhn, Nikomi Lawson, Keva Lawyer, Stuart Leach, BradLee, John Lee, Mitch Lowman, Chris Maloney, Drew Mangrum, Stacey Mangrum, Mickey Mangrum, Shauna Mangrum, Tim Maxwell, Dave McDaniel, Becca McFarlane, Trevor McFarlin, Scott McGaughy, Michelle McGaughy, Alex McGlothlin, Megan Moody, Misty Moody, Jonathan Moore, Saneta Morrison, Lauren nelson, Whitney Norville, Greg Pace, Andrea Quinton, Chris Rainwater, Katie Roney, Cathy Rush, Sarah Russell, Rebecca Rutherford, Lara Ryan, Rachel Ryan, Aimee Schmittendorf, Eileen Sims, Josh Sisk, Justin Smith, Hilary Smith, Robb Soapes, Rainer Sossaman, Brian Speas, Katie Spottswood, Lyndsey Stanley, John Sumitra, Nathan Travis, Lori Tudor, Dustin Walker, Leah Walker, Lance Warren, Jennifer Watkins, Stacey Wells, Emily Wells, Amber Werner, Jaclyn Wilson, Sam Wood, Matthew Woodruff, Diane Wooten, Emily Zeringue

Advertising Club



First Row: Tiffany Tomlin, Sarah Owens, Ashley Allen, Geoffrey Barret
 Second Row: Tiffany Nelson, Waynelle Jackson, Shelly Put, Critz Crawford, Bryan Turner
 Third Row: Sheri Morris, Eric Taylor, Blake Alford, Noah Sanders, Jason Oakley, Ashley Shearin
 Fourth Row: Hank Drennan and Craig Cheek

Panhellenic Council



First Row: John Lee, Tanna Seever, Nikki Birdsong, Kerry Lane, Adrienne Moreland, Angie Boyd
 Second Row: Melissa McNaron, Amanda Abernathy, Emily Zeringue, Becky Logan, Mary McDonald, Heather Brown, Kate Whybrew, Carrie Beth McDonald
 Third Row: Lana Smith, Melanie Kieffer, Sue Spencer, Kristen Youngblood, Jocelyn Howard, Megan Frazier, Christa Rhoden, and Advisor Victor Felts

Block and Bridle



First Row: Rachel Carrigan, Daniel Brown, Vanessa Lawson, Julie Byrom, John Gunter, Bree Murray, Kelly Lochridge, Paul D. Turner, Paul Kelly, Terry Morgan

Second Row: Kevin Ragland, Adam Hall, Jamie Bosch, Robert Benton, Beth Barber, Tommy Turner, Brie Knight, Mary Ann Landrum, Jennifer Sams, Michelle Morton, Virginia Lally

Shape



First Row: Alysia Jenkins, Mary Ann Guinn, J.P. Barfield, Angela Armstrong, Kim Hale, Amberly Sharp

PHI ETA SIGMA



Members Include: Ruth Anderson, James Barnes, Travis Blunt, Stephen Brock, Erynne Brotherton, Mindern Bullock, Marianne Dalene Bush, Sarah Calvin, Brian Centers, Margaret Ann-Michele Clark, Jaquelyn Davoli, Anna Dozier, Jennipher Hammerstein, John Thomas Herbert, III, Jonathan Herrick, Deborah Hope, Pamela Hudgens, Christopher Johnson, Skyla King, Scott LeBlanc, Kelly LeBel, Mary Liggett, Rachel Maupin, Robert McDonough, Dana Moore, Terrence Morris, Haley Nosko, Mary Paris, Andrea Perry, Heather Taylor, Jennifer Terry, Betsy Thompson, Michelle Trahan, Kathryn Tudor, Nancy Wilson, Jamie Woodcock, John Andersen, Tara Appleton, Brooks Benjamin, Amber Clark, Aeshia DeVore, Karen Foster, Teresa Hinger, Jennifer Hood, Jennifer Kisgen, Carol Loflin, Julia Madison, Kyle Mayhew, Melanie Moore, Jennifer Petrone, Heather Strode, Stephanie Swagler, Matthew thigpen, Christopher Whittaker, Kelly Williford, Ashley Williamson, Lauren Wright.

Honorary Members

Dr. Tom Burke, Dean of Student Life
 Dr. Barbara Haskew, Provost, Academic Affairs
 Dr. Bob Jones, Associate Vice President Academic Affairs
 Vicki Justice-Lowe, Associate Director Residential Life
 Dr. John Paul Montgomery, Professor,
 Dean of Honors College
 Lynn Palmer, Director of Admissions
 Gina Poff, Director Student Development
 Dr. Wayne Rollins, Director Cooperative Education
 Dr. Debra Sells, Director of Residence Life
 Stuart Eddings, Coordinator of Orientation and New Student
 Programs
 Dr. John David Hays, Associate Vice President for Student
 Affairs
 Faye Johnson, Assistant to Provost and Vice President
 Dr. Robert C. LaLance, Professor, and Past Vice President for
 Student Affairs

Left: Honorary member and Administrative Advisor Vicki Justice-Lowe recognizes outstanding members.



National Honor Society

Highlights from the 1999 Induction Ceremony



Left: Vice President Courtney Allmond welcomes members and initiates to the induction ceremony.



Left: Guest Speaker Dr. John N. McDaniel informs students, "you would not be in this organization if you did not read."

Below: Faculty Advisor John Paul Montgomery introduces honorary initiates.



Phi Chi



First Row: Laura Van Eyck, Mandy Wilson, Alison Doute, Wendy Little, Melissa McNavon
Second Row: Patti Morrison, Jessi Kline, Leslie Dudley, Tiffany Fowler, Angie Makins, Barbara Schweitzer, Amanda Abernathy

ROTC



Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority



Communication Disorders



First Row: Senita Morrison, Courtney Phipps, Elizabeth Hall, Amy Cotten, and Carrie Reavis

Urban Music Society



First Row: Jonathan C. Spencer, Shawn Whitsell, Marshall Dodson, Sheila Child, LaToya Taylor, Lamont Gholston, Lanette Yarbrough

Not Pictured: Mimi Thomas, Marlon Wilson, Matthew Oakley, Reynada Reed, Jeremy Zavik, Karol Russell

First Row: Dallas Kallberg, Melinda Jennings, Priscilla Haven, Lacy Dailey, Carlita Becker

Second Row: Jim Rising, Kenny Pyatt, J.R. Becker

Not Pictured: Trina Austin, Coby Vaughn, and John Mullane

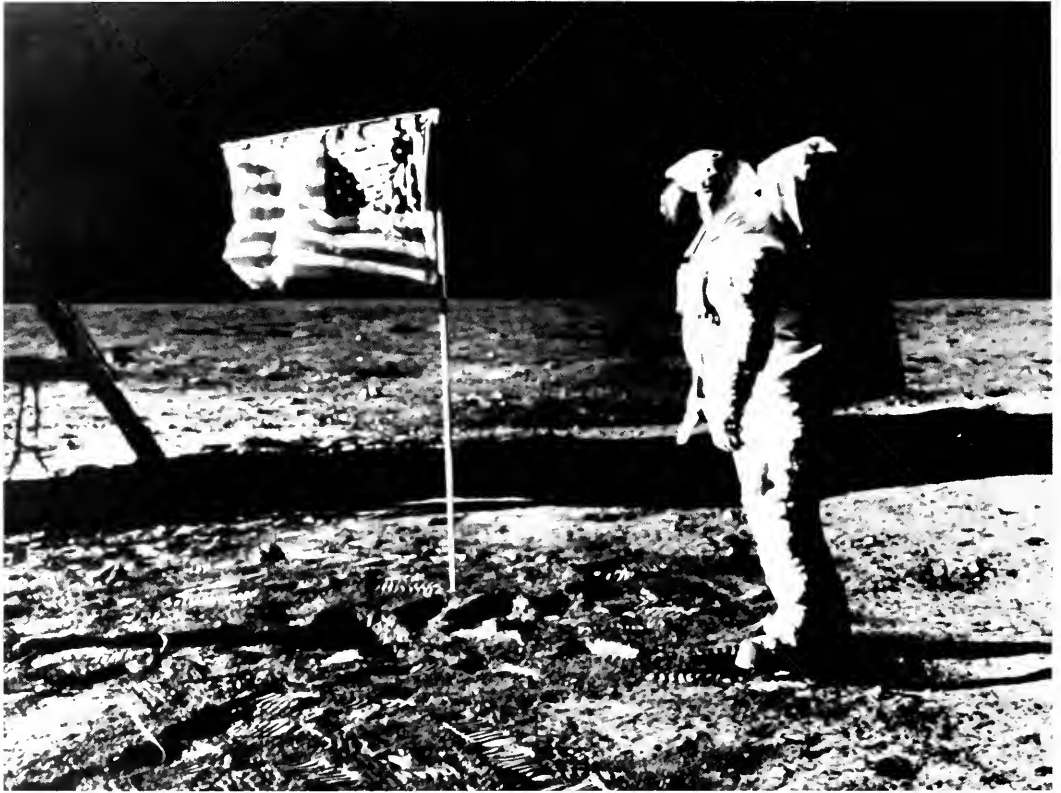


Delta Tau Alpha



The Ultimate Frisbee Club gets some action.

LIGHTNING



That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," astronaut Neil Armstrong proclaimed when he took the first step on the moon, July 20, 1969. This technological feat represents the best of the achievements of the 20th century.

IN

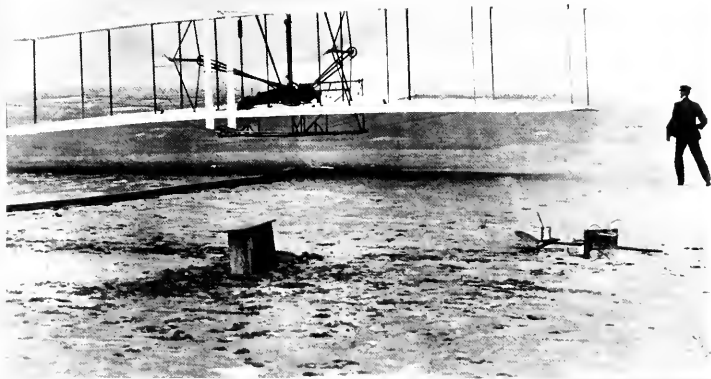
STRIKES



As the 20th Century draws to an end, it is important to recall the events which impacted our lives and set the wheels in motion for this to be known as the century for technological advancements which forever changed the way we live.

HISTORY

Orville and Wilbur Wright's flight on Dec. 17, 1903, sparked a race of technology that has taken us from limping into the air to flying into space and beyond. While many laughed at the brothers' attempts, their tenaciousness set the standard for the remainder of the century.



Henry Ford began experimenting with the horseless carriage about 1890 and tried unsuccessfully to get a quadricycle into production. He launched the Ford Motor Co. in 1903, but it was not until he introduced the Model T Ford in 1908 that he reached spectacular success. When he eventually produced it on a moving assembly line in 1913, he dominated the world's automobile industry, and the assembly line became a model for all industry.

The assassination of the Austrian archduke Ferdinand in Sarajevo in 1914 ignited World War I, 1914-1918. Called the "the Great War," it quickly involved all the great powers of Europe and most of the world, and cost the lives of more than 8 million soldiers. The increased technology of World War I had greatly expanded humankind's potential for killing, but it was also hoped that this "war to end all wars" had served as a lesson to nations and that future bloodshed could be avoided.





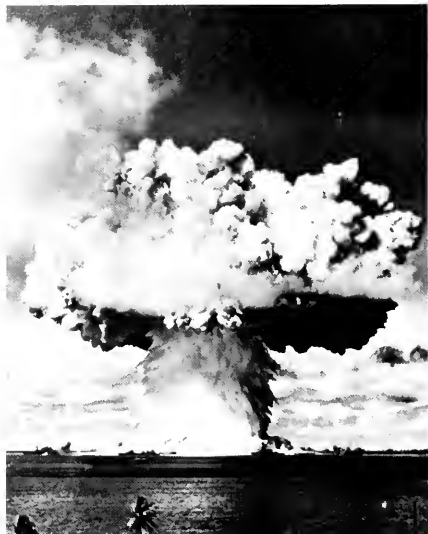
Despite the seeming business prosperity of the 1920s, there were serious economic weak spots overlooked by businessmen. Some weaknesses were in agriculture, mining, railroads and textiles. By 1928 the construction boom was over. The spectacular rise in prices on the Stock Market from 1924 to 1929 bore little relation to actual economic conditions. The stock market crash of October 1929 was just one cause of the Great Depression.

Soup kitchens were common during the economic depression that beset the United States and other countries in the 1930s. This depression was unique in its magnitude and its consequences.

At the depth of the depression in 1933, one American worker in every four was out of a job. In other countries unemployment ranged between 15 and 25 percent. The great industrial slump continued throughout the 1930s, shaking the foundations of Western capitalism and the society based up on it.



World War II began in Europe on Sept. 1, 1939, when Germany attacked Poland, and ended on Sept. 2, 1945, with the formal surrender of Japan aboard the U.S. battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay. Involving most of the world's major powers as belligerents, it also included many smaller states on both sides and had a great impact on neutral nations. The victorious Allies included Great Britain and the Commonwealth, France, the United States, the USSR and China.



The atomic bomb, left, is regarded as the most impressive and disturbing application of science during World War II. Controversy still exists on the reasons for destroying Hiroshima and Nagasaki with atomic bombs that killed more than 100,000 people and wounded a like number. The atomic bomb did not win the war but hastened the inevitable surrender of Japan.



In the Korean War, 1950-53, right, a U.S.-dominated United Nations coalition came to the aid of South Korea when it was invaded by North Korea, which was aided by the USSR and allied with Communist China; the war ended in a stalemate and status quo.



The English rock music group The Beatles, above, gave the 1960s its characteristic musical flavor and had a profound influence on the course of popular music, equaled by few performers. Their early music was influenced by the American rock singers Chuck Berry and Elvis Presley, but they infused a hackneyed musical form with freshness, vitality and wit.

Dr. Jonas Salk, below, developed the first vaccine effective against Poliomyelitis in the mid-'50s. Salk and his associates developed an inactivated virus vaccine that provided immunity against polio. This breakthrough paved the way for medical technology as we now know it.





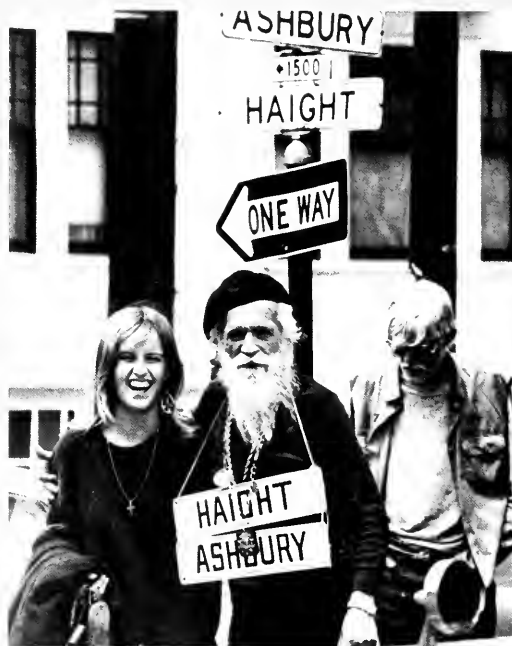
John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the 35th president of the United States (1961-63), and wife Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy, shown above in Dallas, Texas, inspired the age of Camelot. Kennedy was, at the age of 43, the youngest man ever elected to the presidency. Rich, handsome, elegant and articulate, he aroused great admiration at home and abroad. His assassination in Dallas in November 1963 provoked outrage and widespread mourning. His term of office was too short, however, to permit safe judgments about his place in history.

Martin Luther King Jr. was a man of impressive moral presence who devoted his life to the fight for full citizenship rights of the poor, disadvantaged, and racially oppressed in the U.S. Shown at right during the March on Washington where he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech, King's assassination on April 4, 1968, brought an immediate reaction of rioting in black ghettos around the country. This man of peace is credited with inspiring the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s.





In the Vietnam War, which lasted from the mid-1950s until 1975, the United States and the southern-based Republic of Vietnam (RVN) opposed the southern-based revolutionary movement known as the Viet Cong and its sponsor, the Communist Democratic Republic of Vietnam (the DRV, or North Vietnam). The anti-war movement in the late 1960s and early 1970s was a major component of the counter-culture that emerged during the 1960s. Communist victory in Vietnam in 1975 had profound ramifications for the United States; it was not only a setback to the containment of communism in Asia but a shock to American self-confidence.



The counterculture, which arose in the United States during the 1960s, was a social revolt among middle-class young people. Opposition to the Vietnam War and to a society that could uncritically pursue such a war was at the core of this movement. It had both political and cultural aspects: participants in the cultural revolt were called hippies; the political movement was known as the New Left. San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury district became the home to many disillusioned young Americans and was something of a cultural Mecca for them during this time. However, drugs, corruption and lack of commitment to the ideals of the movement led to its decline. Although the counterculture failed to achieve the goals of some of its exponents, it did help produce some permanent changes in American life, including an awakened interest in ecology and a less rigid sense of social and sexual roles among them.



During the 1960s counterculture movement, a militant feminist trend emerged in the United States. The movement was encouraged by a general legislative climate favorable to minority rights and antidiscrimination measures. The Women's Liberation Movement was manifested in literature. Demonstrations by radical feminists may have raised the awareness of the nation to the prevalence of discriminatory beliefs and attitudes. More significantly, feminist political organizations arose that eventually developed into a full feminist movement. The force of the women's rights movement, spearheaded by the National Organization for Women (NOW), was brought to bear on the major issue of the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Even though the amendment passed the House (1971) and Senate (1972), it fell three states short to be ratified.

Richard Milhous Nixon was the 37th president of the United States (1969-74). During his administration, the United States withdrew its military forces from Vietnam and informally recognized the government of the People's Republic of China. The Watergate scandal that occurred at the beginning of his second term brought Nixon to the verge of impeachment by the House of Representatives and led to his resignation, the first ever by a U.S. president.

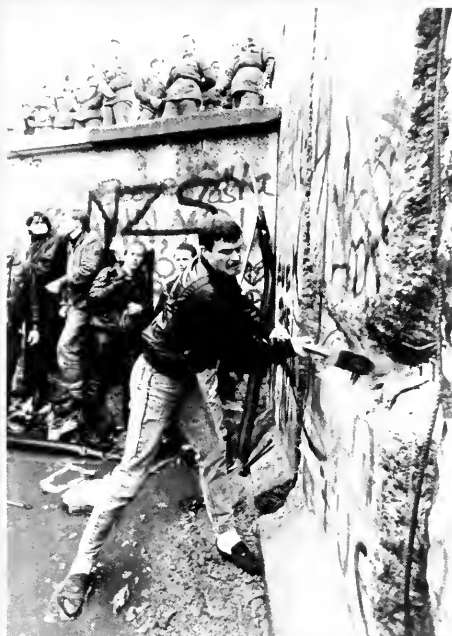




The 25th flight, and 10th flight of Challenger, ended less than two minutes after liftoff on Jan. 28, 1986, when a fireball interrupted the craft's ascent track in full view of the crowd below. This disaster killed the entire crew: commander Francis Scobee; pilot Michael Smith; mission specialists Judith Resnik, Ellison Onizuka and Ronald McNair; and payload specialists Gregory Jarvis and Christa McAuliffe, a high school teacher chosen for the flight in a nationwide competition.

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS, is a disease which was first reported in 1981. Through mid-1993 more than 315,000 AIDS cases and more than 194,000 deaths have been reported in the United States alone. This is only the tip of the iceberg of HIV infection, however, It is estimated that between 1 and 1.5 million Americans had been infected with the virus through the early 1990s but had not yet developed clinical symptoms. No cure or vaccine now exists for AIDS. Many of those infected with HIV may not even be aware that they carry and can spread the virus. Combating it is a major challenge to biomedical scientists and health-care providers. HIV infection and AIDS represent among the most pressing public-policy policy and public-health problems worldwide.





With the aim of preventing East Germans from seeking asylum in the West, the East German government in 1961 began constructing a system of concrete and barbed-wire barriers between East and West Berlin. This Berlin Wall endured for nearly 30 years, a symbol not only of the division of Germany but of the larger conflict between the Communist and non-Communist worlds. The wall ceased to be a barrier when East Germany ended restrictions on emigration in November 1989. The wall was largely dismantled in the year preceding the reunification of Germany.



The history of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics began with the seizure of power in Russia by the Bolsheviks (Communists) in 1917 and ended with the dissolution of the Soviet state in 1991. In the intervening time, the lands of the old Russian Empire were governed by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, an organization committed to a radical vision of Russia's future greatness and of the way to achieve it. This vision led to heroic self-sacrifice and blood-chilling crimes. It inspired millions, not only in the Soviet Union, but around the world; yet by the early 1990s, its inner bankruptcy was exposed and the union collapsed.



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Fans cheer on the Blue Raider basketball team during a home game at the Murphy Center.

MTSU

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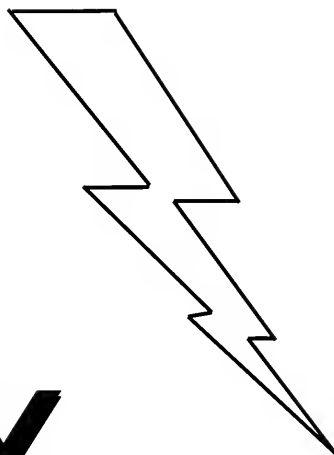


Photo by Derrick Wilson

Baton twirlers from the MTSU Band of Blue march in a parade.

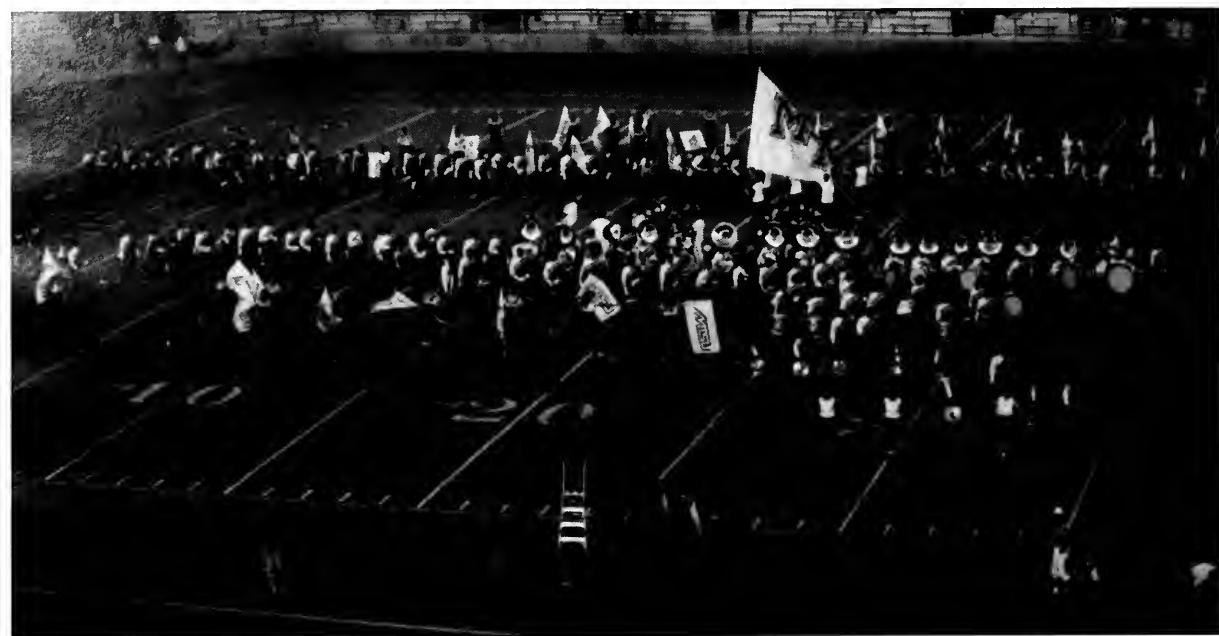


Photo by Derrick Wilson

The MTSU Band of Blue performs for the crowd at halftime of a home football game.

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Photo by Derrick Wilson

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Photo by Derrick Wilson
 A member of the pep band plays his bongo drums during a home basketball game.



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Blue Raider fans show off for the camera during a televised home basketball game at Murphy Center.

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Photo by Derrick Wilson

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Photo by Derrick Wilson

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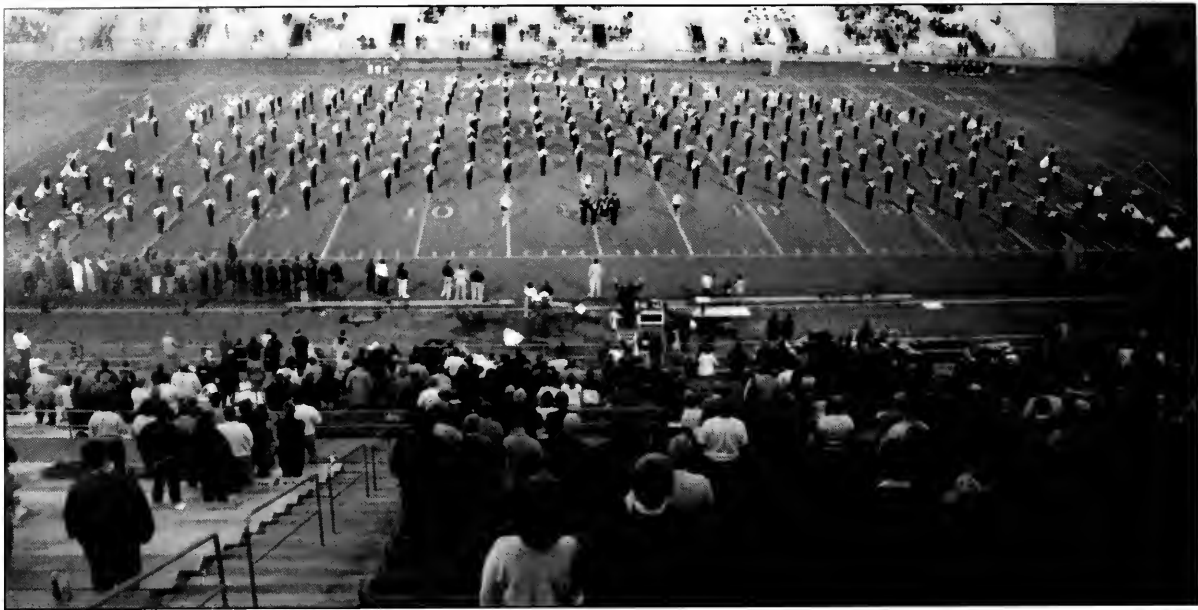


Photo by Derrick Wilson

The MTSU Band of Blue lines up in formation during a performance at a home football game.

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The pep band performs for the crowd during a Murphy Center home basketball game.

Photo by Derrick Wilson



File photo

A graduate lets everyone know how happy she is to be receiving her diploma.

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Photo by Derrick Wilson

December graduates and the crowd of friends, family and faculty listen intently while the graduation speaker gives his address.

The 1999 *Midlander*

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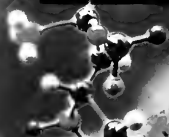
Entertainment



Sports



Lifestyle



World Beat

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Music



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World

AP/Wide World Photos



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National

Millennium



Science

AP/Wide World Photos

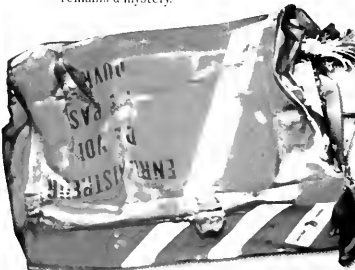
World News



AP/Wide World Photos

As part of Rome's continuing restoration, the city unveils a plan to create an 18,000-square-yard rambling space connecting the Imperial Forums with the Roman Forum.

EgyptAir Flight 990 crashes into the Atlantic Ocean on October 31, killing all 217 people on board. Although suspicious actions of a pilot are under scrutiny by American and Egyptian officials, the cause of the crash remains a mystery.



Reuters/Photo Disc Photos

On October 12, the world's official population hits 6 billion. The designated 6 billionth human is a baby boy born in Sarajevo.



AP/Wide World Photos

In September, more than 300,000 Japanese are checked for radiation exposure after an inadvertent nuclear reaction at a uranium processing plant.



AP/Wide World Photos



AP/Wide World Photos

Nearly a million ethnic Albanians flee Yugoslavia and thousands are killed after Serbs begin a violent ethnic cleansing campaign in 1998. Seventy-eight days of NATO bombing bring the war to an end in June. An international tribunal later charges Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic with crimes against humanity.

In an October coup, the Pakistani army dismisses elected Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and his government after Sharif announces the removal of his powerful military chief, General Pervez Musharraf.



AP/Wide World Photos

Flash

Britain's Prince Edward marries longtime girlfriend Sophie Rhys-Jones on June 19.

Cuban Elian Gonzalez, 6, becomes the center of a bitter citizenship debate after surviving a November boat wreck off the Florida coast in which his mother dies.



AP/Wide World Photos

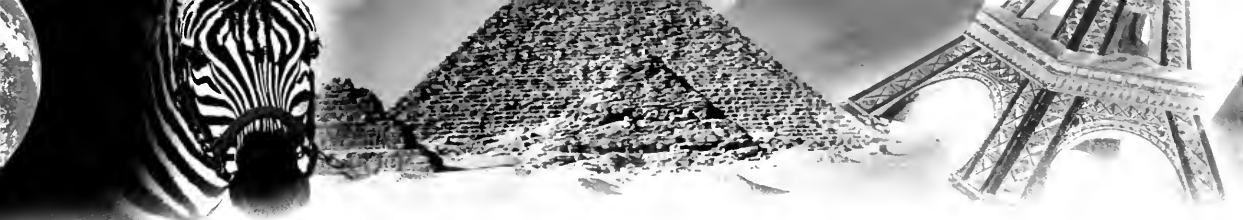
In a violent October coup, gunmen storm the Armenian Parliament and assassinate Prime Minister Vazgen Sarkisian and six other top officials.



AP/Wide World Photos

In India, two trains collide head-on in August, killing 285 people and injuring more than 300. It is one of the worst train disasters in the country's history.

1999



AP/Wide World Photos

In June, Thabo Mbeki succeeds President Nelson Mandela. South Africa's first democratically elected president.



Latino Agency



After almost nine years in power, Russian President Boris Yeltsin announces his resignation in January 2000. Yeltsin names Prime Minister Vladimir Putin acting president pending elections in March.



AP/Wide World Photos, Robert King

In September, Russia begins a military campaign against Chechen nationalists to regain control of the breakaway republic. More than 200,000 people flee the region, but a fierce rebel resistance stays to fight for control of the capital, Grozny.



AP/Wide World Photos/Tony Chen/China wire



Peter Valdes/Tony Stone

In September and October, powerful earthquakes strike around the globe, killing 15,000 people in Turkey, 1,450 in Taiwan and at least 122 in Greece.



Kenneth Garrett/Stone/Getty Images

Archaeologists excavate 105 mummies in a 2,000-year-old underground Egyptian tomb believed to contain a total of 10,000 mummies. The necropolis will shed new light on the Greco-Roman era and will allow scholars to chart demographic data and the incidence of disease.

Flash

A tropical depression producing heavy rain hits Mexico in November. The resulting floods kill more than 350 people and cause 100,000 to evacuate.

In August, the U.S. pays \$4.5 million to victims of NATO's accidental bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade. Three Chinese are killed and 27 are wounded in the May 1999 bombing.



AP/Wide World Photos

On December 31, the U.S. returns control of the Panama Canal to Panama. Opened to the world in 1914, the canal is considered one of the greatest construction achievements in American history.



AP/Wide World Photos

In December, torrential rains cause Venezuela's worst natural disaster of the century. Mudslides and flash floods kill up to 30,000 people, while damage estimates run into the billions of dollars.

2000

National News



Reuters/Mike Segal/Steve Bortone

▲ In July, John F. Kennedy Jr., 38, his wife, Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, 33, and her sister, Lauren Bessette, 34, die in an airplane crash in the Atlantic Ocean near Martha's Vineyard. Kennedy, a relatively inexperienced pilot, is believed to have become disoriented in heavy fog.

◆ Cartoonist Charles M. Schulz retires in January 2000, bringing an end to PEANUTS, America's most popular comic strip for almost 50 years. Schulz dies in February, the night before his last strip appears in the national newspapers.



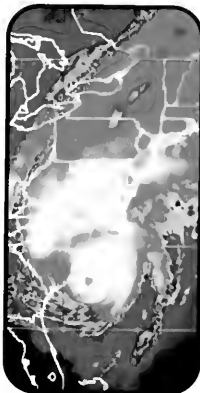
PEANUTS: © United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

◆ As a way to boost tourism, Chicago displays 301 life-size, fiberglass cows decorated by local artists. The public art exhibit lasts all summer until the cows are auctioned for charity.



People Weekly © 1999 William R. Saba

◆ Hurricane Floyd strikes the East Coast in September, killing 51 people and destroying over 4,000 homes. North Carolina is hardest hit with total damages estimated at a record \$6 billion.



AP/Wide World Photos

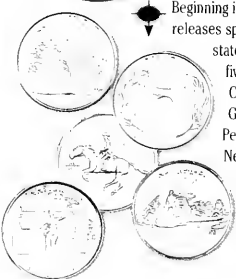


AP/Wide World Photos

◆ The drought of 1999 causes severe damage to Northeastern and mid-Atlantic farms. Several states impose mandatory water use restrictions and emergency federal loans are made available in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia.



◆ Lewis and Clark's Native American guide Sacagawea is featured on a new gold-colored dollar coin released into circulation in early 2000.



◆ Beginning in 1999, the U.S. Mint releases specially designed state quarters, the first five representing Connecticut, Georgia, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. By 2008, each state will have its own quarter.



AP/Wide World Photos

◆ President Clinton announces the removal of the American bald eagle from the endangered species list. In 1999, there are over 5,800 breeding pairs, an increase from 417 in 1963.

Flash

In August, a rare tornado strikes downtown Salt Lake City. Winds up to 112 miles per hour make it Utah's second-worst tornado in history.

In July, Air Force Colonel Eileen Collins, 42, becomes the first woman to command a U.S. space shuttle mission.



Darr M. Derrand/Bryant College Station/Edith Sigma

◆ In November, a 60-foot log tower collapses at Texas A&M University, killing 12 students and injuring 27. The tower was to be burned at a traditional bonfire pep rally.

1999



Reuters/Robert Serfati/Albino Photos

In November, protesters at the World Trade Organization (WTO) summit in Seattle provoked a show of force by local, state and federal officers. Protesters blame the WTO for eroding human rights and labor and environmental standards.



Tom Curran, San Diego Zoo/Reuters/Albino Photos

In August, a female panda is born at the San Diego Zoo. Hua Mei, which can mean "China USA" or "Splendid Beauty," is the first panda born in the Western Hemisphere in nearly a decade.



A bumper sticker invites drivers to call a toll-free number to report reckless driving. Officials hope the system will help parents stay informed about their teenagers' driving habits.

On April 20, 1999, the nation mourns after two students go on a shooting rampage at Columbine High School in Colorado, wounding 23 and killing 15, including themselves. Schools across the country take extensive security measures to ensure the safety of students and staff.



AP/Wide World



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An epidemic of rampage shootings intensifies America's growing concern over gun control. Many state legislatures pass new gun-control measures despite nationwide controversy over restrictions vs. Second Amendment rights.

In an effort to ease the burden on the traditional courts, most states now offer teen court for juvenile offenders. After determining guilt, a jury of teens along with a judge decides the sentence, typically community service and financial restitution.



Timothy C. Sharp



© Flip Schuck/Cortez

Despite 30 years of official denial, in December a jury finds the assassination of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. was the result of a conspiracy, not the act of a lone gunman.

Flash

In the first such admission by a cigarette manufacturer, Philip Morris publicly concedes tobacco is addictive and can cause serious diseases.

Hillary Clinton announces her candidacy for a U.S. Senate seat from New York. As law requires, Clinton establishes New York residency in suburban Chappaqua.

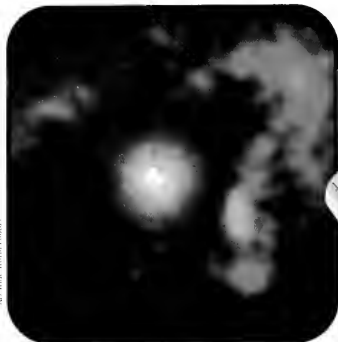


Reuters/John F. Meservey/Albino Photos

In September, Microsoft Corp. Chairman Bill Gates and his wife Melinda announce the creation of the Gates Millennium Scholars Program. The Gateses will donate \$1 billion over the next 20 years to finance scholarships for minority college students.

2000

Science News



AP/Wide World Photos

◆ In August, NASA releases photos from the Chandra X-ray orbiting telescope of a hot cloud of gas from a star that exploded more than three centuries ago. The telescope took 23 years and \$1 billion to develop.

◆ **FEELit** technology allows users to experience computer technology through their mouse. Users can "feel" buttons, text, the weight of a stuffed desktop folder and the groove of a scroll bar.



Copyright © 1999

◆ Fifteen-year-old Amber Ramirez undergoes surgery in which half of her brain is removed to stop the spread of a rare neurological disease. Doctors hope the remaining portion of Ramirez's brain will compensate for the removed tissue.



Lincoln Journal Star



Copyright © 1999

◆ The Java Ring contains a computer chip providing electronic access into buildings for students. Eventually the ring could be used as a library card, digital wallet, electronic ID and authentication for students' online homework.



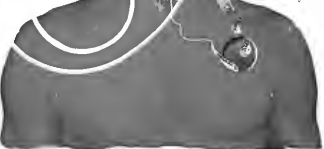
AP/Wide World Photos

◆ The body of a 23,000-year-old woolly mammoth is discovered in October frozen in the Russian tundra. Study of the preserved fur, organs and soft tissue could unlock the mystery of why the species died out.

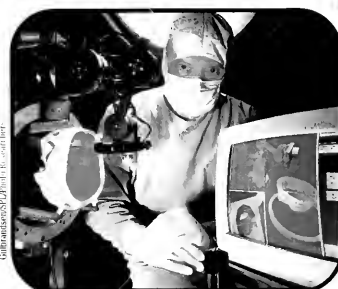


Cyberonics, Inc.

◆ In an epilepsy treatment breakthrough, surgeons implant a "pacemaker" into the chest with a seizure-preventing nerve stimulator connected to the brain. The computer-controlled, battery-powered unit can last up to five years.



Cyberonics, Inc.



Copyright © 1999

◆ In August, U.S. surgeons begin using computer-enhanced robotic technology for heart bypass surgery. Because the chest cavity is never opened, this technique reduces pain and shortens recovery time.

Flash

Researchers announce in July the creation of a cancerous human cell by genetically altering a normal one. This significant breakthrough is an important step toward developing drugs that could potentially wipe out cancer.

In December, IBM announces a \$100 million research initiative to build a supercomputer 500 times more powerful than current models.



AP/Wide World Photos

◆ On August 11, the last total solar eclipse of the millennium crosses the globe. Thousands of people from Canada to India experience daytime darkness during which the moon completely covers the sun.

1999



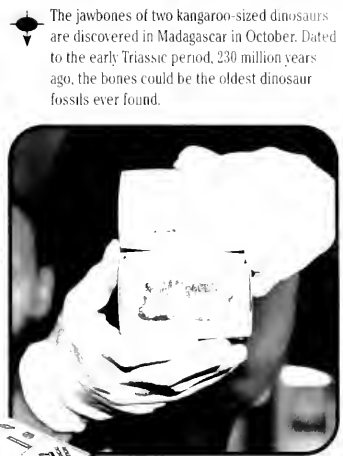
© 2000 Perceptive Inc.

Parents, with help from their doctor, select the gender of their baby using a technique called MicroSort, which separates X-bearing (female-determining) and Y-bearing (male-determining) sperm. The success rate is about 92 percent for females and 69 percent for males.



© Lester V. Bergquist Corbis

Researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital reveal in July that they have successfully regenerated the central nervous system of lab rats with severed spinal cords. Applications for human paralysis treatment are very encouraging.



Reuters/Scott K. Fischer for Photo

The jawbones of two kangaroo-sized dinosaurs are discovered in Madagascar in October. Dated to the early Triassic period, 230 million years ago, the bones could be the oldest dinosaur fossils ever found.



Reuters Media

A new board game, *Infection*, hits stores in July. Fun and educational, players race around the board catching diseases, described in detail, and trying to be cured.



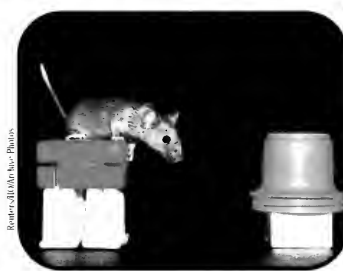
© 1999 Avalon Hill

In October, Sea Launch Company, a multi-national consortium, launches the first commercial satellite into space from a floating platform in the Pacific Ocean. Boeing is a major partner in the venture, along with companies in Russia, Ukraine and Norway.



Source: White House/John F. Kennedy Library

In October, biologists isolate one of the enzymes that sets Alzheimer's disease in motion. This scientific discovery will lead to new treatments and, possibly, a cure. Over 4 million Americans, including former President Ronald Reagan, are living with the disease.



Reuters/Alta Mira for Photo

Researchers report they have successfully altered the learning and memory behavior of mice by inserting a gene into their brains. This genetic-engineering breakthrough may be helpful in treating human learning disorders and Alzheimer's disease.

Flash

In June, scientists announce the creation of two new elements. The nucleus of new, super-heavy element 118 decays into element 116 within a millisecond.

Scientists studying Albert Einstein's preserved brain report it has unique characteristics. The region governing mathematical ability and spatial reasoning is significantly larger than normal.



AP Wire Image/Photo

To mark the 30th anniversary of the first moon landing, astronaut Neil Armstrong's lunar footprint is featured on a 1999 postage stamp.

2000

Lifestyle News



Cosmetic companies increasingly use entertainment celebrities instead of models for their advertisements. Sarah Michelle Gellar, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Jennifer Lopez and Shania Twain are among the celebs who appear in ads.



Ian Spanner

The fashion accessory of 1999 goes by many names — power beads, mood beads and prayer beads. Many sellers claim the beads boost tranquility, energy, creativity and intelligence.

Airlines begin installing elaborate in-flight entertainment systems that allow passengers to watch movies, play computer games, listen to music, read headlines or browse the Internet.



Eric Sander/Liaison Agency

With the huge increase in cell phones, many cities enact laws restricting their use while driving. Restaurants and theaters are also requiring patrons to turn phones off as a courtesy to others.



AP/Wide World Photos



Photo: Robert Corfield/Arthur Photos

In August, a Levi Strauss & Co. megastore opens in San Francisco. The store features a hot tub where shoppers can soak in their jeans for the perfect fit and a computer-scanning system to help customers get the right size.



A continuation of the cargo pants trend, messenger bags with pockets galore hang at the hips of teens everywhere.



AP/Wide World Photos

Apple Computer introduces its new iBook laptop in September. The super-slim, neon-colored units follow the highly successful launch of the translucent iMac desktop.

Flash

In December, Honda introduces Insight, a car that combines a conventional gasoline engine with a small electric motor, decreases ozone and carbon dioxide emissions and gets 80 mpg.

Several companies offer "digital wallets" for teens who want to shop online but don't have credit cards. Parents deposit money into an online account; then teens can spend the money at designated Web sites.



Courtesy: Aromapharmacy

A new line of scented candles called Aromapharmacy comes in amber glass containers and looks like prescription drug bottles with creative names such as Ritalert, Cramprin and Valiumello.

1999

http://



Inline skaters can now power themselves along with the new Roller Cycle Personal Power Accelerator featuring a 1.5-hp-driven wheel. An optional spiked rubber tire for traction makes it also possible to use while cross-country skiing.



Reuters/Kumama Magazine/Photo Photos



Getty Images for Andrew Russell

Shawls and wraps show up everywhere in the fashion world. Hollywood celebrities like Salma Hayek sport the fashion trend in all colors and fabrics.



Robert Taylor

Wireless Web access becomes a reality in September when Sprint PCS announces the first nationwide wireless data service. Shortly thereafter, several other providers debut similar service for hand-held Web phones.

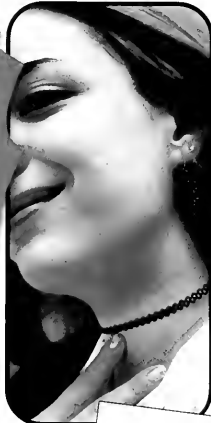


Kosmo Ballington/TVK, Inc.

A Gap TV advertisement for vests starts a trend across America that has teenagers wearing the fashionable sleeveless jackets.



Several rappers start their own clothing lines, making hip-hop wear big business. Popular artist labels include FUBU, Roc-A-Wear, Phat Farm, Wu Wear, Sean John and X-Large.



AP/Wide World Photos/Ben Margel

Stretchy nylon jewelry that looks like skin tattoos is a big hit in 1999. The nylon bands are worn around necks, wrists, arms and ankles, and come in several colors.



Courtesy: Magellan Corporation

Magellan, a satellite navigation system for motorists, offers complete U.S. mapping data, voice and visual instructions in seven languages, turn-by-turn directions and a library of points of interest.

Flash

Teenagers need an average of nine hours and 15 minutes of sleep a night, according to research at Brown University's Bradley Hospital. The study also shows a direct correlation between school grades and duration of sleep.

An influx of dot-com companies advertise on television. Ads during the Super Bowl sell for an average of \$2.2 million per 30-second commercial.

2000



California Prune Board

A growing number of U.S. school cafeterias offer pruneburgers, a healthy low-fat combination of hamburger and prune puree. Other prune items in the works include hot dogs, pizza sauce, barbecue sauce and gingerbread cookies.

Entertainment News

LICIOUS CRISP!

Free POP CORN



PhotoDisc

◆ *The Sixth Sense* with Bruce Willis and Haley Joel Osment is the No. 1 box office hit for five consecutive weekends in the summer.



◆ Video game fans snap up a record 15,000 copies of Sega's highly anticipated Dreamcast system in the first 24 hours after its launch in September.



◆ ABC's summer fill-in quiz show "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire," with host Regis Philbin, returns in November and is a huge hit with viewers. By January 2000, several major networks launch quiz shows of their own.



Marie McNulty/ABC



After 19 nominations, Susan Lucci finally wins an Emmy Award for best actress in a daytime drama series for her role as Erica Kane on the ABC soap opera "All My Children."



AP Photo/WireImage



PhotoDisc

◆ *The Blair Witch Project*, the year's surprise movie hit, is the documentary-style footage of three students lost in the Maryland woods and threatened by the presumed Blair Witch. The film costs \$100,000 to make and grosses \$140 million.

◆ Launched in January 1999, MTV's "The Tom Green Show" becomes one of the season's most popular shows. The Canadian host's bizarre man-on-the-street pranks are the show's main attraction.

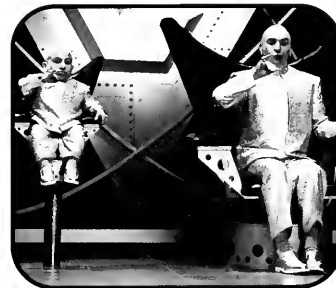


Barrow-Francis/Infocom

Flash

Tom Hanks and Tim Allen return as the voices of Woody and Buzz Lightyear in the animated feature *Toy Story 2*. The sequel breaks box-office records during its Thanksgiving release and wins a Golden Globe award.

In a botched stunt, WWF wrestler Owen Hart falls from the rafters at Kemper Arena and dies in front of 16,300 fans.



PhotoDisc



PhotoDisc

◆ Jennifer Love Hewitt leaves "Party of Five" to star in her own Fox television drama, "Time of Your Life." The show focuses on Hewitt's character trying to make it in New York while searching for her biological father.

◆ In June, Mike Myers' sequel *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me* proves to be a bigger hit than the 1997 original. Dr. Evil's alter ego Mini-Me is extremely popular even though he has no lines.

1999



Konami Corporation of America, Inc.



Photofest

In December, actor Jim Carrey portrays zany comedian Andy Kaufman in *Man on the Moon*. Carrey wins a Golden Globe award for his performance.

American Beauty, starring Kevin Spacey, Annette Bening and Thora Birch, captures the Golden Globe Best Drama Award. The dark satire of suburbia and family dysfunction receives a total of six Golden Globe nominations.



Photofest

The new arcade game *Guitar Freaks* features two guitar controllers and a screen to help players follow along to popular songs.



Dreamworks Television

Set in 1980, the critically acclaimed NBC show *"Freaks and Geeks"* follows two groups of teens trying to make their way through high school.

The long-awaited prequel *Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace* hits theaters in May 1999, taking in a record-breaking \$28.5 million on its opening day and going on to gross more than \$420 million.



Six Flags Great Escape

Medusa, the world's first floorless roller coaster, opens in August at Six Flags Great Escape in New Jersey. The 4,000-foot, toe-dangling ride has enough drops, loops, rolls and corkscrews to thrill every rider.



AP/Wide World Photos

In September, the New Roc City entertainment center opens in New York. The complex includes an amusement park ride on the roof, two skating rinks, 19 movie screens, restaurants, an arcade, a health club, a supermarket and a hotel.

Flash

Michael J. Fox announces in January 2000 he will leave the popular ABC sitcom *"Spin City"* at the end of the season to promote awareness of Parkinson's disease in hopes of finding a cure.

After 10 seasons, Fox cancels the hit show *"Beverly Hills, 90210."* The show followed characters through high school, college and careers.



The Everett Collection

The Talented Mr. Ripley, starring Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow, Jude Law and Cate Blanchett, opens in December and earns popular and critical praise.

2000

Music News



Reuters/Steve Paine/Archie Photos

Released in June, Santana's *Supernatural* shoots up the *Billboard* album chart, sells over 6 million copies, and earns 10 Grammy nominations.



Britney Spears' album *...Baby One More Time* is the second-best-selling album of 1999, earning Spears the *Billboard* Music Awards Female and New Artist of the Year Awards.



AP/Wide World Photo



U.S. sales of music by Latin artists shoot up 48 percent in the first quarter of 1999 thanks to artists such as Ricky Martin, Jennifer Lopez, Enrique Iglesias and Marc Anthony.



Superstar Mariah Carey releases *Rainbow* in November and begins a world tour in February 2000. Carey is named *Billboard* Music Awards Artist of the Decade and is awarded the distinguished American Music Award of Achievement.



AP/Wide World Photo/Kara Beach



Saturday Night Live: The Musical Performances Volumes 1 and 2 are released in September. The CDs feature 30 of the 600 musical acts that have appeared on SNL over the past 25 years.



Michael Lechner/Corbis



Limp Bizkit leads the way in the resurgence of rock music, along with Kid Rock and Korn. In September, MTV showcases the trend by airing "1999: Return of the Rock," which examines the history and future of rock music.



Flash

Sheryl Crow, Eric Clapton and the Dixie Chicks are a few musicians who rock Central Park in a first-ever trimulcast concert seen and heard on the radio, television and Internet.

More than 1 million viewers tune in each weekday to vote on their favorite videos on MTV's "Total Request Live" with host Carson Daly and popular musical guests.



Corbis Images

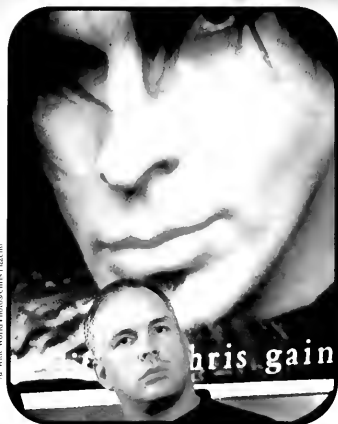


Computer games feature big music stars on their soundtracks. Sheryl Crow contributes her talent to the *Tomorrow Never Dies* soundtrack, Metallica to *Hot Wheels Turbo Racing* and Naughty by Nature to *NBA Live 2000*.



Backstreet Boys' *Millennium* wins the *Billboard* Music Awards Album of the Year and becomes the best-selling album of the year with over 10 million copies sold.

1999



In a strange twist, Garth Brooks releases the album *The Life of Chris Gaines* in which he pretends to be a fictional rock star. Gaines will be the main character in a movie called *The Lamb*, currently in development.



Lou Bega's rhythmic "Mambo No. 5" hits the Top 40 in August after selling 2 million copies overseas and topping the chart in 15 countries.

"NetAid," a concert dedicated to relieve hunger and poverty, airs live in October on MTV, VH1, the BBC, as well as radio stations in 120 nations, making it the widest-heard musical performance in history.



MP3, technology that compresses sound into a very small file, becomes a popular alternative to the CD. MP3 files are downloaded from the Internet onto computers or portable player units, making it possible to take a personal music selection anywhere.



Shania Twain becomes the first woman since 1986 to win the Country Music Association's Entertainer of the Year Award at the 33rd annual awards show.



VH1's "Concert of the Century" spotlights the importance of music education in schools. The all-star show includes Lenny Kravitz, Sheryl Crow, Eric Clapton and B.B. King, as well as high-profile actors.



Fiona Apple releases her long-awaited second album to rave reviews in November and begins a tour in February 2000. The album features a 90-word title, which is commonly shortened to *When the Pawn...*

Flash

After a successful New Year's Eve reunion performance, the Judds begin their first tour in almost 10 years in February 2000. Since they disbanded in 1991, Naomi has recovered from Hepatitis C.

Best New Artist Grammy nominee Christina Aguilera gives an exciting performance during the Super Bowl XXXIV halftime show.



Ricky Martin takes the music industry by storm after his show-stopping performance at the 1999 Grammy Awards show. Martin's first chart-topping single, "Livin' la Vida Loca," helps him win the *Billboard* Music Award for Male Artist of the Year.

2000



AP/Wide World Photos

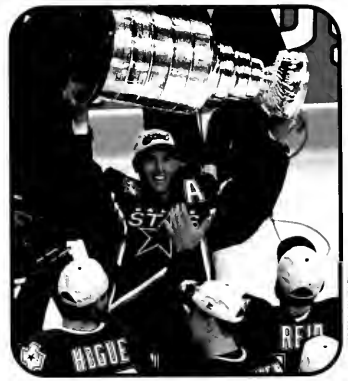
◆ David Cone of the New York Yankees pitches a perfect game against the Montreal Expos in July. Cone's feat is the 14th perfect game in modern baseball history.

◆ Lance Armstrong wins the 1999 Tour de France in July. Armstrong, who survived a three-year battle with testicular cancer, becomes the second American to win the event.



AP/Wide World Photos

◆ The Dallas Stars beat the Buffalo Sabres 2-1 in triple overtime to win the 1999 Stanley Cup championship, four games to two.

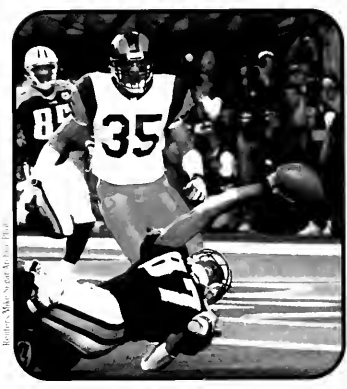


AP/Wide World Photos

◆ Golf champion Payne Stewart is killed in a bizarre airplane accident in October. After the airplane's takeoff from Florida, an apparent loss of cabin pressure incapacitates everyone aboard. The aircraft flies on autopilot for four hours until it runs out of fuel and crashes in South Dakota.

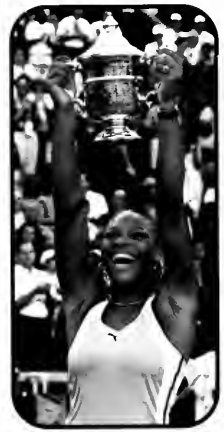


Bruce L. W. / Getty Images



AP/Wide World Photos

◆ The St. Louis Rams stop the Tennessee Titans at the 1-yard line on a final play to save their 23-16 Super Bowl XXXIV victory.



AP/Wide World Photos

◆ In September, tennis phenom Serena Williams, 17, overpowers Martina Hingis to win the 1999 U.S. Open title.

Flash

Both Detroit Lions running back Barry Sanders and German tennis star Steffi Graf announce their retirement in 1999.

On February 7, 2000, Tiger Woods wins his sixth consecutive PGA Tour event, tying Ben Hogan's 1948 winning record.



AP/Wide World Photos



AP/Wide World Photos

◆ The Houston Comets earn their third straight WNBA championship in September, beating the New York Liberty 59-47 to win in three straight games.

◆ Dale Jarrett wins the 1999 NASCAR Winston Cup championship after a four-victory season.

1999



AP/Wide World Photos

In July, the U.S. women's soccer team wins the 1999 World Cup by beating China 5-4 in penalty kicks following a 0-0 tie. More than 90,000 fans attend at the Rose Bowl and another 40 million watch on television.



AP/Wide World Photos

Travis Pastrana, 15, wins the gold medal in the X Games' inaugural Moto X freestyle motocross event. The fifth year of this ESPN-sponsored competition is held in San Francisco in June and July.



AP/Wide World Photos

Andre Agassi wins the French Open in June and becomes the fifth man ever to complete a career Grand Slam. Agassi goes on to win the U.S. Open in September.



AP/Wide World Photos/Charles Krupa

The New York Yankees win the 1999 World Series in a four-game sweep against the Atlanta Braves.



AP/Wide World Photos



AP/Wide World Photos

In June, the San Antonio Spurs win their first NBA championship by defeating the New York Knicks four games to one.



AP/Wide World Photos

The U.S. team beats the European team to win golf's Ryder Cup at Brookline, Massachusetts, in September. The American's stirring comeback is marred by unruly galleries and a premature victory celebration.

Flash

In July, many major league baseball umpires announce their resignation as a labor protest. The strategy backfires when owners accept the resignations and in September, 22 umpires lose their jobs.

In January 2000, Michael Jordan returns to pro basketball as part owner and President for Basketball Operations of the NBA's Washington Wizards.

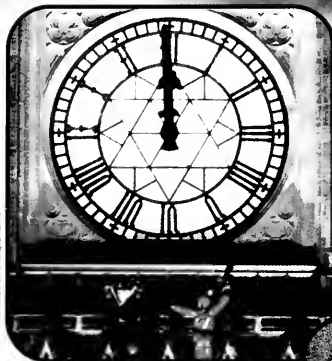


AP/Wide World Photos

Twenty-year professional hockey veteran Wayne Gretzky announces his retirement in April 1999 after setting or tying 61 records. Two months later, "The Great One" is inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

2000

Millennium



◀ Clock Tower
Ottawa, Canada

Pyramids
Cairo, Egypt

▶ Times Square
New York City,
New York



As time zones welcome the new millennium on January 1, the world celebrates with grandeur, pageantry and spectacular fireworks. President Clinton gives a hopeful speech in the minutes before midnight at the Washington Monument, and 2 million people gather in Times Square to watch the specially built 1,000-pound Waterford crystal ball drop at midnight.



The Eiffel Tower
Paris, France

▶ Space Needle
Seattle, Washington



Flash

The public and private sectors spend hundreds of millions of dollars to ward off the Y2K bug. The world lets out a sigh of relief after midnight strikes and no major computer malfunctions occur.

The FBI warns of possible terrorist acts on New Year's Eve and stays on national alert throughout the celebration. After the arrest of one man with bomb-making materials, Seattle decides to cancel its Space Needle celebration.

◀ Fearing the collapse of the world's banks, utilities and transportation systems, thousands of people stock up on food, water, money, ammunition and generators. After midnight, it soon becomes apparent that the preparations were unnecessary.



1999

▶ A surprising number of people, appalled by the exorbitant costs of travel and events, decide to stay home on New Year's Eve. Many companies and performers drastically slash prices as a last-minute lure.



